No 8

ARABIC BIBLE: CORRESPONDENCE.

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No 8

To Mr. Rowl. Sherman
Merch.t at Aleppo in
Syria

Middle Temple
17. Decemb.r 1720.

Sir,

The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge have had so Excellent a Character of your Piety and Charity from the Revd Mr. Lisle late Chaplain at Aleppo, that they have unanimously chosen you a Corresponding Member of their Body, desiring your Concurrence in the Prosecution of their Designs by such Methods as Christian Prudence and Charity shall direct.

I am prevented giving you an Account of the Rise and Progress of this Society, and the Success which (by God's Blessing) hath attended their Designes, by a printed Letter herewith sent, wherein you will see the Nature not only of this Society but of several others setup of late years in and about London for promoting the Knowledge and Practice of true Religion amongst us.

The Revd Mr. Foley will likewise particularly inform you what the Books herewith sent may be wanting in to give a just Idea of the Society and their proceedings.

Mr. Lisle, I doubt not, has already addressd you for correct Copies of the New Testament and Psalter in Arabick, in order to be printed here for the use of the poor Christians in your parts of the World according to the Proposal herewith sent, and Mr. Foley will communicate some Letters at large which have been wrote to the Society on that Subject, and which indeed gave occasion to the Society to apply themselves to you who have taken so much pains towards accomplishing the same Christian Undertaking.

God Almighty give you the Satisfaction of seeing so generous a Designe accomplishd which has cost so many years Application; and that your Labour may be less liable to miscarry in the Conveyance, the Society will readily be at the Charge of transcribing your original Copy.

If your Copy should deviate very much from the Common Copies used in Palestine, pray signify your thoughts, whether that may make it unacceptable to the Clergy who are to recommend it, and by what means an Objection to it on that Score may be prevented. Mr. Lisle has been desird to send also for a Common Copy that those who can judge of it here may see the Difference.

It is

It is left to your Prudence to obtain or not a Recommendation of this undertaking from the Venerable Patriarch of Antioch to be prefix'd to the Work, wherein you will please to signify your thoughts to the Society; and also of printing the Decalogue to shew that we have not it as the Church of Rome had done?

May God reward all your Care and Zeal for his Glory, is the Wish of

Sr

Your &c. H. N.

Pray what Mapp of your parts do you esteem best?

To Mr Rowl Sherman
Merch.t at Aleppo
in Syrie

Middle Temple
21. June 1723.

Hond. Sir.

I was in hopes to have sent you by this Opportunity a more perfect Specimen of our Vso Arabick Letter than what I have inclos'd, but the Indisposition of our Founder obliges me to send this or none, and you may perhaps guess by it how acceptable an Impression made from this Letter may be to the Natives of Palestine &c.

The Society were induc'd to make it upon a Computation that the Polyglott Types were so large as to require 2 Large 4.to Vol.s for an Impression of the New Testament only, and that much more than the Charge of this New Font would be sav'd in the Articles of Paper and Binding, beside making the Book more portable.

There are about 18 more double Letters made than are in this Specimen, which I hope to send by the Bearer a print of; if the delay his departure for a few days.

The Society were advis'd to omit the Letter us'd in printing Avicene's Works, how well the Engraver has performd his part you will be judge when you compare them: Mr Hogr thinks it a degree less than Avicene and finds fault with the Initials of Gein, Ha & Cha &c. as too long which the Founder has promis'd to mend.

I am glad to tell you what I suppose Mr Lee writes to you particularly of, that the Copy you have been so kind to send over to the Society by the Olive Branch is safely arriv'd, so that we may expect very soon to go to work: And you shall have an account of our Progress, God willing, by all Opportunities.

I had like to omit one thing which you very prudently recommend in your last, namely, the conducting this Affair with as much Privacy as possible for fear of ill Offices from our Romish Enemies. As the Expence of it is defray'd by voluntary Contributions there was no avoiding the Publication

of the

of the Proposals you have seen to raise the Fund, and as they are Scatter'd all over the Kingdom, it is very possible some Copies of the Proposal may fall into the hands of our Adversaries. What therefore we trust to chiefly is, to accomplish the Impression with so much Truth and Beauty as to Silence them and by taking no Notice of the place in the Title Page, they may if they please assume the Glory of having done the Work at Rome, provided they will let the Copies be quietly dispers'd under such Cautions as you and our Friends in Palestine shall prescribe.

I beg leave to refer you for the rest to Dr. Lisle and Mr. Isley who I doubt not write largely to you by this opportunity and remain

Sr Your &c. H. L.

To Mr. Rowl. Sherman.
at Aleppo.

Middle Temple
11th. January 1723/4

By the Duke of Cambridge.

Sir,

The Beautifull Copy of the New Testament in Folio which you are so kind as to send over to Dr. Lisle is come safe to hand, and has by him been presented to the Society, for which I am ordered to signify their Thanks to Mr. Sherman in the most respectfull manner. The Founder having just now cast in the New Types to the Printer, he is but just now beginning to compose the Psalter of which I was in hopes to have sent you a proof, and for that reason have stayd to the last Minute of this Ships sailing, but as I don't send any Letter now I am told it will stay behind.

Good Providence has sent to England Mr. Jodidhiah Segonius a learned Native of Aleppo to assist in the correcting part which is a circumstance I am very glad to acquaint you with, Mr. Negri being much in years. My most humble Duty to the Patriarch of Antioch whose Life the Society heartily wish and pray for in hopes that affair may be finished and prosper under his powerfull Patronage. I am with the greatest Esteem

Sir, Your &c. H. L.

To Mr. Rowland Sherman Merch.t at Aleppo.

Middle Temple.
9th June 1724.

Worthy Sir,

Read and approved of by the Committee 16th June 1724

My former was of the 11th January last by the Duke of Cambridge which I hope is come to your Hand, signifying the Thanks of the Society for the beautiful Arabick Copies of the Psalter and New Testament sent over by You to be printed here.

The Copy of the New Testament in small 8vo is since come to Hand, and I am ordered desire Your Acceptance of the Society's thankful Acknowledgement for it.

The Psalter is printed off as far as the 45th Psalm, and will be finish'd, God willing, in three Months time, or less. I have herewith sent two Specimens, one with, and the other without Contents and Refecences: Of the former there are printed 1500. Copies for the Clergy &c. and of the latter 4500. for the lower Rank.

You will find that the Orthographical Notes which sometimes occur in the Copies You sent over are omitted in the Impression of the Psalter and the Reasons for omitting them are because the Society are inform'd by such whom they thought fit Judges that the Psalter would be as well understood without the Notes as with them; and for that they are omitted in some Places of the Manuscripts and inserted in others: Beside that the Omission of them enables the Society to print the greater Number of Copies, and they are informed that the Notes are commonly left out in printed Books, Mss and Letters.

Afterwards when the Society came to consider of printing the New Testament there were some Gentlemen present skill'd in the Language that had been lately chosen Members, who differ'd in their Opinions with Regard to these Orthographical Notes: Some were for using them all, not only such Notes as are found in Your Mss, but likewise those that are omitted; Others were for leaving them all out as in the Psalter; Nay One of the late admitted Members believ'd that the New Testament would be better understood without the Notes than with them. The Case standing thus, the Society have directed me to write to You for the Patriarch's and Your Opinion as to the Necessity of using these Orthographical Notes in the Impression of the New Testament, which they will entirely acquiesce in: And if the Opinion be that the Notes found in your Manuscript of the New Testament should be printed, the Society are desirous to know, whether those that are omitted should not likewise be added.

The Society also desire to know, Whether the Psalters shall be sent over by the first Opportunity after they have received your Answer; and, in Case they are to be sent over bound, whether the Binding shall be in Leather or Vellum.

Sir, The Society are very sensible of their Obligations to You for the generous Assistance You have given towards promoting these Impressions and therefore they doubt not of your excusing the Trouble of this Application which is made out of a Desire to render the Impression of the New Testament as acceptable as they can to the Patriarch and Yourself to whose Labours they are so much indebted.

I beg You to be assur'd that I am with the greatest Esteem

Sir,

Your most obliged humble Servant

Henry Newman

A Duplicate of this is sent to You via Marseilles. Our Friends Dr. Lisle and Mr. Soley are well, attending their Patrons the Arch Bishop of Canterbury and Bp of Winchester in their Visitations.

Ex. L. C

To M: Rowland Sherman
Merch.t at Aleppo

Middle Temple
23.d Dec.r 1724

Worthy Sir,

Read.d 4.th Society 7. Jan.y 1724/5.
Read.d Committee 12. Jan.y 1724/5.

I receivd Your Favours of the 6.th June and 10.th of August the last by three several Ways, and thank You for your kind Advices therein signify.d, w.h have been laid before the Society, and they very much wish they could reach to all that Beauty in the Arabick Impressions, which You recommend; but the Narrowness of their Fund, and the many Niceties in the Arabick character, which both the Letter-Founder and Printer complain of as hard to be followed, hinders the Progress of the Society in such a Manner as they wish: But of this You may expect a Letter over land more particular, as well as about the Orthographical Notes or Marks, the Hamza, Teshdid and Tanuin, the Giesma, Wesla and Medda, whether these or any of them are necessary to be used in our Impressions, to render the Text more intelligible to the Common People, for whose use the Books are principally designed. They are indeed omitted in the Psalter, but as it may be sometime before the New Testament may be begun, if You are pleased in the mean Time, to signify your own Thoughts, and the Opinion of your Learned Neighbours upon this Affair, it will be a great Satisfaction to the Society, to clear up the Doubts of some Gentlemen, who think the Want of those Notes, will render the Impressions in a Manner useless, except to the learned Readers. If the Letter designed over Land should not reach your Hand so soon as this, pray send your Thoughts on this Head, by the first Opportunity.

This goes by the Halifax and Wentworth to acquaint You, that 2 large Cases marked R. S. No 1. 2. are Shipp'd on Board the Halifax Capt. Butler Commander, and one Large Case marked R. S. No 3. on board the Wentworth Capt. Sax, for Scanderoon, containing 2025 Psalters, bound according to the Numbers undermentioned.

Mr. Eaton is so good as to interest himself in prevailing with the Captains to receive them, when they were so full as to refuse other People's Goods, and return 'em back again.

I wish them safe to your Hands, and that they may answer Your and the Society's Expectations. The Society will be very glad to hear of a good Patriarch chosen to succeed the late Great Athanasius, and pray signify at the same time, whether the Patriarch of Antioch has any Authority over, or holds any Correspondence with the S.t Thomas's Christians in the East Indies, on the Coast of Malabar, and if he has, how that Correspondence is maintained and in what Language.

Mr. Fisher and Mr. Soley are well, and, I doubt not, write to You, by this Opportunity. May God Almighty reward your Zeal in the Affair abovementioned; and prolong Your Life to see it accomplished is the Wish of

Honoured Sir,
Your most obed.t humble Serv.t
Henry Newman.

		fine Paper	large Calf	small Calf	Sheep.
On Bord the Halifax	R. S. No 1.	13	200	100	293.
	2.				747.
On Bord the Wentworth	3.	12	300		360.
		25.	500.	100.	1400.

S. S.

London 24: Dec. 1724

Sir,

The Case N.o 3. designed by the Wentworth, after being sent to Gravesend is sent back again; but M.r Eaton, assures me it will follow in about 10. Days on bord the Royal Exchange Capt. Thomas Moulton Commander. Capt. Butler in the Halifax is so good as to receive the Cases N.o 1. 2. and, at the Desire of M.r Eaton, to carry them freight free; But I have not yet received the Receit for them, which M.r Eaton will be so kind as to forward, if it reach his Hand before the Ship sails from Gravesend. I am, once more

Pray let me hear from You by the first Opportunity after their coming to Hand, and of all the Faults You find in them practicable for Us to mend in y.e New Testament.

Sir, Your most obed.t humble Serv.t

Henry Newman.

Copy of the Mates Receit.

R.S. N.o 1. 2 { Dec.e 24.th 1724. Received on bord the Halifax George Butler Commander two Chests to Mark and Number as Margent

me Tho.s Parks.

P.S. to a Duplicate of the foregoing Letter by the Royal Exchange.

Middle Temple 9.th January 1724/5

Dear Sir,

This goes by the Royal Exchange and prays your Answer to my Request above in Relation to the Orthographical Marks by the 1.st Opportunity. I hope M.r Eaton will forward the Receit for N.o 3. as I have now sent that for N.o 1. 2. instead of a Bill of Lading.

The Rev.d M.r Bedford, Author of the Book herewith sent begs Your Acceptance of it and would be glad of any Remarks You shall in perusing it, vouchsafe to make. He is a Member of our Society, and is so kind as to be One of the Supervisors and Correctors Gratis of the Arab. Impressions; and is one of the worthy Gentlemen who desires to have your Opinion particularly about the Orthographical Notes, The Teshdid, Hamza &c.a I heartily wish You all Manner of Prosperity and that Success may attend all your Labours for the Service of Religion in a Country wanting the Means of it.

I am

Your most obed.t humble Servant

Henry Newman

Ed. L. C

To Mr. Rowland Sherman Merch.t
at Aleppo in Syria.

London,
Middle Temple
13.th Janu 1724/5

Honour'd Sir,

By the Royal Exchange
Capt. Jno. Melton.

I receiv'd this Morning the Letters herewith sent from the Reverend Mr. Bedford, and Mr. Dadichi concerning the Orthographical Marks mentiond in my last; to which it is requested You would be pleas'd by the first Opportunity to make your Answer to me, that You may have but one Trouble in signifying Your Opinion to them, and You will at the same Time oblige the Society as your Advice will determine what has occasiond not a little Debate between the Supervisors and Correctors of the Arabick Impressions.

I again wish You all Manner of Prosperity, and remain, with great Respect,

Ex.d L. C

Hon.d Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant.
Henry Newman.

To
Mr. Rowland Sherman Merch.t
at Aleppo.

London 5. Janu 1724/5.

Hon.d Sir,

The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge in this City having thought me worthy to be employd in Correcting the Arabick Psalter and Testament, I crave Leave to inform You, That a Debate arising, Whether the Orthographical Marks — namely Haamza, Wesla, Medda, Giesma, Teslidid, and the Nunnations or Tanuins especially such as are used in your Copies of the New Testament, should be inserted in our Edition of it, or left out, as they are in Our Psalter, already printed? Mr. Newman wrote You a Letter of the 9.th of June last on that Subject, and communicated Your Answer to them; But they had not the Satisfaction, which they hoped for, because You wrote Your Opinion only of the Marginal Notes, and not of those Grammatical Marks beforementioned, which were annexed to the Consonants in the Body of the sacred Text.

I have therefore given You the Trouble of this, craving both your Pardon and an Answer to Mr. Newman on this Subject.

As to what

As to what You mention of three Sizes of Letters, one for the Titles of the Chapters, another for the Text, and another for the Margin and Contents, I should be glad if it was so; because it would make the whole, not only more Ornamental, but also more legible, and we have two Sizes already: But the Size which we want for the Text can be but one Size bigger than that which we now have for the Margin, because in such a vast Number of Books, a greater Size would very much encrease the Charge of Paper, besides the Charge of a new Font of Letters.

As to the Testament being printed in two Columns, and the Verses beginning distinct Lines with the Figures before them, as in Our English Quarto Bibles, and Your Manuscripts, there is no Doubt but it would make the whole more useful, and I know not of the least Inconvenience that would attend it.

The Marginal References in your Manuscripts being written on both Sides of the Text, cannot so well be printed in the same Manner. For in Manuscripts a Man may in every Leaf take what Distance he pleases from the Back of the Book, or in the Inner Margin; but in Print we are confined always to the same Distance, which would either make it too close in the Middle, or too wide in the Beginning and End of the Book. But there may, with good Convenience, be a Margin in the outward Part of each Page, and the Rest may be placed at the Bottom, as Occasion shall require; and as it is frequently in your Manuscripts; but if your Method is found practicable it will be complied with.

As to what You mention concerning the Red Letters, they cannot be so printed without the Additional Charge of Composing each Sheet twice, which will not be less than two hundred and fifty Pounds; and also the Printing it twice, which in every thousand Books, will be an hundred and thirty Pounds more, besides the Danger of Printing the Red Letters upon the Black, if any Mistake should happen either in Composing, or at the Press. But if there is a Larger Body for the sacred Text, those Letters may without Expence be placed in a smaller Character with what the Printers call a Scabbard, that is a Blank underneath to fill up the Space, or a Blank Line, if it shall appear to be better: But as the Great Objection against Complying with your Requests is the Want of a sufficient Fund for this Purpose, So I have now the Satisfaction to inform You, that a Committee is appointed to consider of farther Ways and Means to raise the same; And, I hope, that by GOD's Blessing on their Endeavours, the Difficulties will be removed.

As to the Orthographical Marks abovementioned, I crave Leave to acquaint You, that tho' in Manuscripts Transcribers vary according to their own Humours; yet printed Books being more exact, there is a Necessity of settling certain Rules to be observed from the Beginning to the End, or otherwise such Variations will be look'd upon as Caprice, and Want of Judgement; and as it is the Desire of the Society to print the New Testament, that it may be most plain and easy to the Vulgar, who have not Money to buy other Books, nor Leisure to make themselves such Masters of Reading as the Learned are, and that they may be capable to read the same in their Families; So, for this End, I humbly propose the

following

following Methods, desiring You would consider of them, and consult, as formerly, such other fit Judges hereof, as You think proper, that the Work may go on at the Receipt of your Answer, and all the Difficulties may be settled.

I. The first Method is to insert all the Vowels, and all the Orthographical Marks. This is the Method, generally used in the best and finest Alcoran Manuscripts, and in the Copies of the Old and New Testament, and Part of the Apocrypha, made Use of by the Editors of the Polyglott. It is the Method of the Carmen Tograi, printed by Dr. Pocock, and of the two hundred Arabick Proverbs printed by Erpenius. If this Method is approved of, whatever is wanting in your Copies may be supplied from the Polyglott, where the Words agree, or from the Sense of the Greek Original, where the Words do differ. As this Method leaves no Room for Ambiguities, so if it was approved of, I should gladly bestow my whole time for this Purpose, and think that I could not do GOD more Service, than by thus endeavouring to restore the Light of the Gospel to those Parts from whence we received it. And if we vary from this Method, I doubt the Care of the Turks, in Writings accounted sacred, will condemn the Negligence of Christians.

I have further to add in Behalf of this Method, that before these Vowels and Marks were invented, such a Gross Ignorance abounded in the Time of Mahomet, that few could write or read, which occasioned the fatal Increase of his Imposture; and for two Centuries after that Time, there was but little Improvement in Learning, so that they burnt one of the best Libraries in the World, saying, that the Alcoran alone was sufficient. But when Almamoun their Chalif set himself to the Advancement of Learning in those Countries; they soon invented these Marks to facilitate the Reading, and accordingly all their Grammars took particular Notice of them. This was attended with that prodigious Success, which made the Nation famous for the Learning of those five following Centuries ever since; But when these Marks began to be disus'd, then gross Ignorance prevail'd again, which (as I am told) is the Case of the Turks at this Time.

It may also be observ'd, that whilst these Marks have been left out, all the Labours of Dr. Pocock, Boyle, Seaman, Whelock and others, to convert the Turks have been ineffectual. But if an easier Way of Reading could be improv'd among them, and our Modern Principles of Astronomy and Geometry could be introduced, Mahometanism must tumble, and the Impostor's Journey to Heaven, upon which the whole is founded, will appear ridiculous, since the Angel's Eyes, which he mentions, bear no Proportion in Distance to the rest of his Body; and tho' Mahomet places him in the third Heaven alone, yet His Height must be four times as much as the Height of all the seven Heavens together. He places the fix'd Stars in the first Heavens, and the Seventh or Highest (all which the Impostor makes equally distant) is not farther from the Earth, than the Body of the Sun itself. The fix'd Stars, which he will have to be of the Bigness of Mount Noho in Arabia, are known to be so vastly bigger than the whole Earth, that one of the Satellites of Jupiter is computed as big as this Globe, and yet always invisible to the naked Eye, even when five hundred times nearer to us than those fixd Stars really are. And his Riding upon the Beast, which he calls Lightning must appear to be a Cheat, for in such a Case, he must pass along above two thousand times Swifter through the Heavens, than the known Motion of Lightning or Light itself. Or otherwise he could not have return'd in the tenth Part of a Night as he pretended.

2. I cannot also but mention my Opinion, that the Sense of the sacred Text would be more clear and evident, if those few Parentheses (such as Acts xxii. 2. &c.) might be inserted, tho', I own, I never met with any such Instances in the Arabian Language.

But, if for Reasons mentioned by Mr. Dadichi, and which I freely confess is beyond my Power to answer; and if, for other Reasons better known in Asia than to me, You disapprove of this Method, and resolve to leave out the Vowels, then I submit it to your Consideration,

3. Whether those Vowells, which distinguish one Noun from another of different Senses ought not to be inserted?

4. As for the Tannuins, or Nunnations and Vowels which form the different Cases at the End of Nouns, I crave your Direction. But, as far as I can guess by all your Copies, the Rule is this, that wherever a Noun is distinguished from a Verb, as by a Preposition or Article, these Marks are omitted; but where there is no other Distinction they are added. This is also the Method of the Maccabees in the Polyglot, and the Folio Gospels printed at Rome.

5. I desire also to know, Whether in Verbs the Damma (ـُ) ought not to be added which distinguisheth the Passive from the Active Voice, for tho' they are omitted in your Copies, yet they are added in the Books beforementioned.

As to the five Orthographical Marks, the first is Haamza (ـٔ) and I take it for granted, that 6. Wherever it is alone (as at the End of a Word) and stands for an Eliff, it ought to be always added as it is in your Copies.

7. In other Places, Your Copies seem to favour this Notion, that wherever an Eliff is moveable, the Hamza is added to the Eliff, in all other Instances it is omitted.

But in the Folio Gospels printed at Rome, they seem to follow another Rule. 8. Viz. to place a Hamza over every Eliff, Waw, and Je, which stands for a radical Eliff. this clears up many Difficulties in the Text, and this I submit to your Directions.

9. I find no Wesla (ـٜ) in your Copies, and yet I cannot but be of Opinion, 10. that it ought to be added to the ten Nouns mentioned in the Grammar; but 11. especially to the Imperative Moods to distinguish them from other Tenses, and especially from the same Verb in another Conjugation, which is generally used in a different Sense.

12. I find the Medda (ـٓ) in your Copies used in Participles deriv'd from Verbs, which begin with Eliff, and some proper Names. But in the Gospels printed at Rome, 13. it is also placed over an Eliff, when a Hamza follows, which Rule may easily be observed, and, to say no more, in my Opinion makes it very ornamental.

14. I find no Giesma (ـٚ) in your Copy, but yet I desire to know, Whether 15. it will not be necessary to place it over such Nouns as cannot otherwise be distinguish'd from others of a very different Signification.

16. The last Mark is Teshdid, (ـّ) and as far as I can guess by your Copies it ought always to be used, to which I entirely submit without further Directions

17. But if

17. But if it is thought more adviseable to leave out all the Vowels and [illegible] as well those which are used in your Copies as others, which is the Method already taken in our Edition of the Psalter, this may be alledged in Favour thereof, that the Number of Books printed will be greater, because of the great Difference of the Expence.

And now, Sir, as I have been so particular in this Letter, so I humbly desire such a particular Answer to Mr. Newman, as may satisfy us in each of the Seventeen Queries abovementioned, and enable us to proceed without any further Difficulty or Delay. I shall absolutely acquiesce in your Determination. And praying to GOD to give such a Blessing to this Undertaking, that it may be for his Glory, for the Comfort and Confirmation of the poor Christians in Asia and for the Conversion of the Turks, I crave Leave to subscribe myself.

Hon.d Sir,

Your most humble and
Obed.t Servant

Arthur Bedford.

P. S.

Since my Writing the above Letter, Mr. Dadichi and I have had a free Conference on this Subject; after which we agreed that it would be most suitable to your Copies, that all the Radical Eliffs, and the Wavs and Jes, which stand for a Radical Eliff, should have a Hamza, that the Teshdid Radicale and Euphonicum should be always used, and the Teshdid Initiale be omitted. That whenever a Noun is not distinguish'd from a Verb by a Preposition or Article, The Tannuins or Vowells which form the different Cases be added. That the Damma which distinguisheth the Passive from the Active Voice be added; That the Medda in Participles derived from Verbs which begin with Eliff, and in proper Names, and over an Eliff when a Hamza follows, be added; But that all the other Marks be omitted. We hope that this will make every thing plain and easy to the meanest Capacities, but we submit it to your Determination either to approve hereof, or make whatever Alteration You think Convenient.

Ex. L. C.

12. Januarii anno 1729.

Honoratissimo Domino Sherman

Theocharis Dadichi S. P. D.

Cum Arabicam Linguam, utpote Aleppi natus, ex Materno Usu loquar, — ideoque Domino Doctori Bedford, adjunctus sim, ut Folia Testamenti Arabici imprimenda Typographo describam, et impressa corrigam; Jussus sum meam de Vocalibus Notisque Grammaticis Opinionem in hâc Epistolâ tibi proponere, et eam cum Opinione Domini Bedford comparando facilius judicare possis, quid de totâ hac Materiâ determinandum sit.

Nosti, Honoratissime Domine, nobis esse tres Vocales vel Simplices, quæ sunt Fatha بَ Ba, Kasra بِ Bi et Damma بُ vel Nunnatas بًا, بٍ, بٌ, Ban, Bin, Bun. Præterea quinque alias Notas, quæ quidem ipsæ Vocales non sunt, sed faciliori tantum, et accuratiori Lectura inserviunt, — scilicet Giasm (ـْ) quæ designat Literam Vocali carere Taschdid (ـّ) quæ duplicat Literam in Pronunciatione. Hamza (ء) quæ apponitur tantummodo Litera Alef radicali, ejusque Vicariis Vau et Ja, imprimitque illis quendam Accentum acutum. Wasla (ٱ) quæ solum Alef Initiale comitatur, et exprimit quodammodo Apostrophen Græcorum. Denique Madda (آ) quæ est etiam solius Alef propria, idque quam longissime effert.

Jam vero triplex in Societate agitatur de hisce Vocalibus Notisque Quæstio. Utrum, scilicet, plane omittendæ sint in Impressione Novi Testamenti, an Omnes ad unam adhibendæ, et in suis quæque Locis constanter apponendæ, an vero quædam tantum seligendæ et in quibusdam tantum Vocibus adhibendæ ubi nempe faciliorem, et minus equivocam Lectionem efficiunt.

Quod ad Primam attinet, equidem si plane amittantur, fateor posse Lectorem minus doctum sæpe sæpius hærere. At videtur Officii esse ac pietatis Pars non mediocris Populares nostros enixe adjuvandi ut Novum Testamentum facilè legant, et quod legunt, facilius etiam, si fieri potest, intelligant, quod vix fieri posse existimo si omnes omnino Vocales et Notæ absint. Quid ergo? Num illæ omnes adhibendæ sunt? Quæ est secunda Quæstio; hoc non aio, imo nihil perniciosius esse judico. Nam quia cum loquimur, vel Libros communis Usus legimus, non omnes Vocales omnesque Notas pronuntiamus, Lucc meridianâ clarius est, quam difficilis, quamque tutubans Erasura sit Lectio, si legentium Oculi omnes Vocales omnesque Notas cernunt, Ore tamen eas omnes efferre non liceat. Scio Europæos hoc non capere, quorum Linguæ in multis — aliis, tum præsertim in Usu Vocalium toto Cælo ab Arabicâ differunt. Sed, Tu, Vir Honoratissime, qui tam perfectam nostræ Linguæ Cognitionem

habes,

habes, die quæso, unquamne vidisti quemquam legere Scripturam sive in Ecclesia, sive alibi coram Populo ex Regulis Grammaticæ, id est omnes Vocales omnesque Notas ad unam pronuntiando? Nonne statim vocarent eum putidum Grammaticum? et Calumno excepterent. Omnibus Vocalibus et Notis describant, legantque. Nam illis est æterna Consuetudo sive Religio ita Coranum legendi seu potius cantitandi, indonata, ut ego existimo, quod Farrago illa Coranica, Stylo ubique Poetico et Versibus in Rhythmos desinentibus consarcinata sit. Sacra vero Scriptura pedestri Sermone constat et simplici, nec aliter debet in publicis legi, imo unquam aliter legitur, quam honestissimi quique solent in loquendo pronuntiare. Superest igitur quod tertio Loco proposui, Utrum videlicet quædam Vocales et quædam Grammaticales Notæ seligendæ sint, ut in quibusdam tantum Vocibus difficilioribus quidem et magis æquivocis apponantur. Ego vero hoc ipsum totis Visceribus cuperem, ut, Exempli Gratia, passiva interdum ab Activis per Dammas distinguantur; ut Nunnationes nonnunquam subjungantur quando maximé ad Harmoniam Phraseos Anrimungue Quotcm conducunt ut Tashdid, quod Erpenius necessarium vocat, semper, Euphonicum vero interdum, ubi ex vulgari Pronunciatione gratiam habet, exhibeatur; ut Hamza ibi conspiciatur ubi Alefradicale, et ejus Vicaria Wau et Ja emphaticâ quâdam Impressione, pronunciandæ sunt, sicut قيچ Guina, ut denique Madda in pauciss. Dictionibus, quarum Alef quam longissime protrahendum est adhibeatur. Nihil de Giasm et Wasla dico, quia unquam hæ duæ Notæ adsunt nisi ubi Reliquiæ omnes tum Vocales tum Notæ adesse supponuntur. Si hæc omnia cum Judicio fiant et sine Morositate, nondubito quin Lectio futura sit facillima proindeque et grata et utilis. Atque hanc quidem Sententiam etsi libenter amplector, libentius tamen eam et Reliquias priores duas limatissimo tuo Judicio submitto

Londini. Vale.

شكر الله اخا الياس ابن فتح الله الحدادي

Ex.m ℔ℓ C

To Mr. Rowl. Sherman
at Aleppo.

Middle Temple
9th June 1725.

Hon.d Sir,

Recommended to the Care of the Revd. Mr. Edwards going over in the Sea-Flower L. D. C . . .

Read to the Committee 15th June and approvd of . . . . . I did not till Yesterday hear of Mr. Edward's being appointed Chaplain at Aleppo, and in hopes this may come time enough to his Hands. I send it to acknowledge the Receit of your kind Letter of the 5th of February last, though You could not inform me then of the Ships being arrivd that carryd our Cargo of Psalters, I hope they are now safe with You, and shall be glad to hear that the Impression pleases You.

You will perceive the Reason why we put the Marginal References at the Bottom of the Page instead of the Side, because in Printing the lesser Copies afterward, without those References, the Printer could not so easily separate the References from the Text, as when they were at the Bottom of the Page, besides, if the References had been in the Margin, for Want of a Font of Smaller Types to express them, the Text would have been crowded into a very unsizable Page, which would have look'd very disproportion'd, after it came to be stript of the References. And, by the Method We have followd the Charge of Recomposing was savd.

The Printer finds many Inconveniencies in Printing Arabick, which dont occur in Printing the European Languages, as the Want of Distinctions of Italick and Roman, and Capital Letters, beside a great Variety of Stops and Marks, which I doubt can only be introduc'd among the Arabians by the Art of Printing itself, because We here cannot well judge of their Gust so well as they themselves can. For the Distinctions of Lesser and Greater, and Red and Black Letters, tho' easily expressd in Manuscript, cannot be so by a Printer, because all the Letters in a Page or Column of Letter, must be made to one Body, as the Printers call it, or else there would be endless Confusion, and to express one single Word in a Page or Sheet in Red Letters there is the same Expence requird, as to the Printing part, as attends the Printing of all the Black Letters beside, on the same Sheet, they being performd by 2. Different Operations, and not at once: Which I mention for Fear You should not be acquainted with the Art of Printing, and as an Apology for our not making the Impression conformable to the Beautiful Mss you sent over.

The Letter in which You see the Psalter printed, is something Smaller than that used in Printing Avicene, and is the Smallest that has yet been used in Printing Arabick, which was therefore the Pattern followd by our Letter-Founder,

but

but Small as it is, the Text only of the New Testament cannot be printed in a less Volume than a Small 4.to or large 8.vo So that to express the Marginal References and Annotations, which You have with great Labour and Expence sent to the Society, with the Text distinguish'd in a bigger Letter as You propose, will unavoidably swell the Impression to a Large Folio, or 2. Large 4.to's the Consequence of which must be a far greater Expence than the Fund for it will at present reach to; Or, that the Number of Copies printed would be so few as to fall very short of answering the Design of the Society for furnishing the Common People, as well as the Clergy with several thousand Copies and not less defeat the Expectations of Our Benefactors.

You will see by the New Edition of the Extracts of Letters what Expedient the Society has been necessitated to take for raising Benefactions, though it is contrary to the Advice You gave of Privacy, which could not be follow'd, unless We had had Means of raising the Fund for such an Undertaking without calling in the Assistance of Our Friends.

The Society will soon see what Effects this Expedient recommended by all the Bishops that attended last Sessions of Parliament, may have, and accordingly be able to proceed as You have or shall advise them.

My Letter of the 13.th of January last, which accompany'd Letters from the Rev.d Mr. Bedford, and Mr. Dadichi, concerning the Orthographical Notes or Marks of Hamza, Teshdid &c.a was sent by the last Ships from hence instead of going over Land, as was intended, while it was dubious whether a third Ship would sail or no, and, I hope, they have reach'd your Hands, so that We may have your Answer by that Time we shall be in a Condition to begin with the Impression of the New Testam.t

Give me Leave only to observe to You, that in the Estimate of the Charge of the Impression, given to the Society, the Use of those Marks, if they are thought necessary, is an Article of 400. £ in the whole, which arises chiefly from the Considerations of Paper and Binding to which the Work will be swell'd; because the Lines, through the whole, must be so much separated as to admit those Marks as well where there are none, as where there are any Marks: Nor can they well be express'd, but where the Letters are as large, as the Polyglot, or one Size less. Notwithstanding which, if the Books will be useless without them, they must be had, in which the Society will determine themselves by your Advice.

The Society are glad to understand by Your last, that the late Patriarch Athanasius is succeeded by a Person not less Venerable for his Learning and Zeal for true Religion, in Opposition to the Usurpations of the Romish Church, Who, if they could, would subjugate both the Christian and Pagan World Univ-

to their

to their Domination, for secular Ends under the Pretence of Religion, and then threaten Damnation to all that should presume to speak Truth or dispute the Infallibility of their Arbitrary Dictates. I congratulate you on the Prospect of such a Patron and Friend to all your laudable Endeavours for Promoting the Glory of GOD, and wish You all Manner of Prosperity, being with the utmost Respect,

Hon.ble Sir,

Your most obed.t

humble Servant

H. N.

Ex.d L. C.

To Mr. Rowland Sherman

at Aleppo in Syria.

Honoured Sir,

Middle Temple

5.th Oct: 1725.

I receiv'd Your most acceptable Letters of the 20.th April last Viâ Marseilles, of the 29.th April, Viâ Livorno, and last post Duplicates of them, with a postscript of the 1.st June, Viâ Marseilles, all which have been communicated to the Society, and I am order'd to thank You for them, with an Assurance that the Advices therein given by Yourself, and the Rev.d Pietro de Oliva shall be follow'd as far as Our Abilities and Fund for imprinting the New Testament will enable us.

The Society are in daily Expectation of the King's Royal Bounty of 500 £ towards the Undertaking, which Sir Robert Walpole has assur'd them shall be paid; And till that is receiv'd we can make no Guess what may be Our Success in other Applications to the Princes and Nobility; but we hope they will chearfully follow the Royal Example. His Majesty has seen the Mss Copies both of the New Testament and Psalter which You sent over, and was wonderfully pleas'd with the Beauty of them, and wish'd that the Impressions to be made might be equal to them. In which nothing will be wanting in the Power of the Society, to make them so, provided the Fund be sufficient, which at present is but low by Reason of the Expence on the Psalter, of which 2500. Copies more are sent in the Princess Amalia, and Happy Return, as undermentioned.

I this Day receiv'd Your Favour of y.e 3.d July by Mr. Kingston, with a Packet for the Reverend Mr. Bedford, which I immediately forwarded to him. Mr. Kingston expects in a Day or two to receive the Mss Copies You therein mention, and then I shall take Care to lay them, with Your Proposal, before the Society.

Dr. Lisle

D.r Lisle is at Croydon, and M.r Soley with the Bp.o of Winchester at Farnham, but I hope they both write to You. I am, with great Respect

Worthy Sir,

Your most obedient
humble Servant.

Henry Newman.

P. S.

I have not yet receiv'd the Receits for Shipping the Books undermentioned, but hope M.r Eaton will forward them, if I don't get them Time enough to cover them in this.

The Particulars shipped the 1.st Curr.t were as follows.

4 Chests, Mark'd R. S. Viz.t

		Arab. Psalters.	Small 8.vo in Sheep.	Large 8.vo Calf	Roy. Paper.	Grotius de Veritate Religionis
On the Princess Amelia	No: 4. containing		500	125	12	6.
	5.		500	125		
On the Happy Return	No: 6. containing		500	101. Plain Calf 24. Gilt Calf.		
	7.		500	125		
			2000.	500.		

The Grotius de Veritate Religionis Christianæ are sent You as a Specimen only of the Remains of the Learned D.r Pococke's Labours several Years ago, and if they may be acceptable to You for y.e Service of Religion You may command more of them by the next Fleet. I should have sent You a Packet of the little English Books dispers'd by the Society, by these Ships, if they had not hurry'd away, so that I am oblig'd to send this by the Post after them to Deal.

Ex.d L. C.

a 2. P. S.

London. 6.th Oct. 1725.

I have enclosed a Copy of the Receit I receiv'd from the Happy Return, but it seems the Officer of the Princess Amelia declin'd giving a Receit because the Goods were not Merchandize upon Freight: and M.r Kingston tells me, there will be no Difficulty about the Delivery of them. I am extremely oblig'd to M.r Eaton for the Trouble he has allowd me to give him upon this and former Occasions, and find he has obtain'd the favour of these Cases going also freight-free from the Commanders of these Ships, for which I beg You to thank him and them.

Copy of the Mate's Receit.

R: S: 6: 7. Receiv'd on Board the Happy Return, Capt. Henry Ather, Two Cases Mark.d and N.o as p.r Mg.t

Oct. 1. 1725 ff S Seymour

A Memorial,

To His Grace the Lord Arch Bp. of Canterbury,

about printing the Annotations on the Arabick New Testament as transmitted from Aleppo.

May it please Your Grace,

The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, in the Year 1721. publish'd Proposals for printing the New Testament and Psalter in Arabick.

In Consequence of this Proposal, they receiv'd so many Benefactions as enabled them to put to the Press, the Psalter as sent in MSS. from Aleppo.

6250. Psalters have been since printed; of which,

1750. Copies had the Contents and parallel Texts printed with each Psalm.

The Charge of this Impression being defray'd, there remains betwixt five and six hundred Pounds towards the Impression of the New Testament.

Tho' this Sum be not sufficient to undertake this Impression, yet the Society are desirous to put Things in such a Disposition, that as soon as His Majesty's Bounty, which they are encouraged to hope for, and other Benefactions are receiv'd, no Time may be lost for putting the New Testament into the Press.

The Copy for this Impression was sent in MSS. from Aleppo, and with it there are Contents, parallel Texts, and Marginal Annotations, beside a large Preface containing an Abstract on the Old Testament by Way of Arguments on each Book, and at the End of the Testament, an Historico-Geographical Index of the Names of Persons & Places mentioned in the New Testament.

In Order to make some Judgment of the said Annotations, the Society have caused several of them, upon certain controverted Texts, to be translated into Latin, a Copy of which is herewith humbly laid before Your Grace.

These Annotations with the Particulars above named, are earnestly recommended to be printed with the Text by the Gentleman at Aleppo, to whose good Offices, the Society owe the Copies of the New Testament; But as this is a Matter of great Importance, the Society think themselves obliged humbly to submit the following

Question

Question to the Consideration of Your Grace, and the Lords the Bishops, to whose pious Recommendation, in great Measure, ow the Fund for carrying on this Undertaking.

Whether, admitting that Your Grace, and their Lordships, will not be of Opinion, that all the Testaments, to be transmitted to Aleppo, should be published with Annotations, and the other Particulars abovementiond; yet to give some Satisfaction to the earnest Desires of their Correspondent at Aleppo, and for the Reasons offerd by him, in several Letters, Your Grace, and their Lordships, will not think it advisable that one Quarter Part, or thereabouts, of the Number, which the Sum shall enable them to print, be printed with the Annotations and the other Particulars abovementiond, provided there be Nothing found in them (when Examind by such Persons as your Grace and their Lordships shall think proper) which may give Offence to the Xtians in those Countries?

This is humbly laid before Your Grace, by,

My Lord

Your Grace's,

most obedient humble

Servant,

Henry Newman.

Midle Temple
23. Decemb. 1725.

To the Right Hon. the Lords
Comm. of His Maj. Treasury.

His Majesty having been graciously pleasd to signify His Royal Intention for contributing towards the Charge of an Impression of the New Testament in Arabick, The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, who have the Care of directing that Impression, request the Lords Comm. of the Treasury would be pleasd to give Directions for the Payment of His Majesty's Bounty to the Revd. Dr. Richard Mayo their Receiver of Benefactions to this Undertaking.

Memorand. A Copy of this was presented by Sr. John Philipps and Dr. Mayo to Sr. Robt Walpole, the 3d. of Febry. 1725/6.
vid. Their Report on the Minutes of that Day.

To the Revd Mr Yagnier
at Oxford

12th May 1726.

Revd Sir,

The Society for Promoting Xtian Knowledge having taking Measures for putting the New Test. in Arabick in the Press, that the same may be as correct as possible, they have ordrd me to desire you would be one of the Correctors of the Sheets as they come from the Press.

And if you are ~~desird~~ dispos'd to accept of ~~same~~ their Invitation to such Service, that you would signify upon what Terms you would be willing to undertake it i: e. at how much ⌐ Sheet, and how the Proofs may be most expeditiously convey'd to and from you without putting you to Charge. Your Answer directed to me here, by the first Opportunity.

Revd Sir, Your most humble Servt

H: N.

To the Right Honble
Sr Robert Walpole.

2. June 1726.

Most Hon. Sir,

According to your Appointment Dr Mayo and my self were yesterday to wait on You at the Treasury with the enclosd Memorial in Relation to his Majesty's Bounty to the Impression of the New Testament in Arabick, but not having the Happiness of seeing you there, and I being engaged to attend at another Place this Morning, entreat you to excuse my Absence at this Time, and that you wile please to permit Dr Mayo, Receiver of the Benefactions to this Undertaking, with Mr Newman, Secretary to the Society, who have the Care of that Impression, to have Access to you to know Your Pleasure on this Occasion. You may remember Sr that you formerly askd me what Sum was desird by the Gentlemen of the Society, I said, we hopd his Majesty's Benefaction would not be less than five hundred pounds, considering the great Number of Copies to be printed, which, including all Charges, we believe wile not cost less than two thousand pounds. The Society trust through your Goodness, Sr, that this their humble Request wile meet with a favourable Reception which cannot but redound very much to the Honor of the King and his Government, as it wile in all Appearance to the Benefit of great Numbers of poor ignorant People who are in a manner quite destitute of the Holy Scriptures. I am Hond Sir, Your most obedient and obliged humble Servant

John Philipps.

Ex. & H.N.
R. L.

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To the Right Hon.ble the Lords Comm.rs of His Majesty's Treasury

His Majesty having been graciously pleas'd to signify His Intention to encourage by His Royal Bounty an Impression of the New Testament in Arabick, the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, who have the Care of that Impression, request the Right Honoble the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury would be pleas'd to give Directions for the Paym.t of His Majesty's Bounty to the Rever.d Dr. Richard Mayo their Receiver of Benefactions to this Undertaking.

Memoran.m A Copy of this was presented 2 June 1726. upon which their Lordships order'd a Warrant for His Majesty's Signing for 500 £.

N.B. vid. pa. 99. in Book of Things of Moment for the Copy of the King's Warrant, for 500 £. towards the Impression of the New Testamt in Arabick, dated at Kensington 22.d June 1726.

N.B. The following Memorial was offer'd to the R.t Honoble S.r Spencer Compton at his house at Chiswick 14 July 1726. by S.r Jn.o Gonson and Mr. Newman; and upon reading of it, he promis'd to use his good offices with the King, but desir'd to be excus'd presenting it, and said, considering the Nature of the Thing, it would come more properly from the Hand of some Bishop. at the same time shew'd him the King's Royal Manual for 500 l. &c.

To His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales

out of his Royalty Bounty

His Majesty having been graciously pleas'd ~~upon the humble Representation~~ to grant to the Society for Promoting Xtian Knowledge ~~to his Majesty's Warrt to the Lords Comrs of the Treasury for paying~~ to D.r Richard Mayo one of His Majesty's Chaplains in ordinary, ~~Five Hundred Pounds of his Majesty's Royal Bounty~~ towards encouraging an Impression of the New Testam.t in Arabick for the use of the Poor Christians in Palestine and other Oriental Countries, subject to the

† 500 l. which had accordingly been p.d

Jurisdictions

Jurisdictions of the Patriarchs of Antioch, Syria, Jerusalem and Alexandria, the Society humbly hope from Your Royal Highness's wonted Goodness that you may be graciously pleased to countenance an undertaking so much for the Honour of God and the Service of Christianity in Countries so destitute of the Holy Scriptures as the Turkish Dominions are for want of the Art of Printing.

The Society have been enabled by the private Charities of divers of his Majtys Subjects to print upwards of 6000. Copies in 8vo of the Psalter in Arabick most of which are already sent to Aleppo and thankfully accepted by the Patriarchs there as a generous Charity from the British Nation highly useful to their oppressed Brethren in those Parts; And the Society hope by his Majtys Royal Bounty and other contributions, to be enabled to extend the impression of the New Testamt to 10.000. Copies in 4to.

All which is most humbly submitted to yr. Royal Highness's Princely consideration.

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George R.

Our Will and Pleasure is, That by Virtue of Our General Letters of Privy Seal bearing date the 29th. day of September 1714. You issue and pay or cause to be issued and paid out of any of Our Treasure or Revenue in the Reciept of Our Exchequer, applicable to the Uses of Our Civil Government, unto Doctor Richard Mayo or his Asigns, the Sum of five hundred Pounds, without Account, as Our Encouragement to the Work performed, or now performing under the Care of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge of Printing the New Testament in Arabick, and for so doing this shall be Your Warrant. Given at Our Court at Kensington the 22. of June 1726. In the Twelfth Year of Our Reign.

By his Majestys Command.

R: Walpole.

To the Commissioners of our Treasury.

Cha: Turner.

Wm Yonge.

Geo: Dodington.

Dr Rich. Mayo 500 £ His Majestys Encouragem.t for printing the N. Testam.t in Arabic.

To the Reverend
Mr Dean Harris,
at Richmond, Surrey.

Middle Temple.
19th July 1726.

Reverd Sir,

Approvd by the Committee the 19. July 1726. and sent by the post y same Day.

The Speaker of the House of Commons having been waited upon with the Memorial to the Prince, in Favour of the Arabick Impressions, was pleasd to say, That tho' he heartily wishd well to the Undertaking, he could not think it would become him to present a Thing of that Nature which, as an Affair of Religion, would come more properly from the Hands of some Bishop. Accordingly his Grace of Canterbury having been humbly applyd to at Croydon, was pleasd to signify, That as his Grace had not recommended it to His Majesty, it might give Umbrage of Want of Respect to the King for him to make a Compliment to His Royal Highness which he had not first made to his Majesty. That as my Lord

Townshend

Townshend had been so good as to recommend it to his Majesty, his Grace thought it would be equaly proper for Mr. Molyneux, as his Royal Highness's Secretary, to lay the Proposal before the Prince. That to facilitate such an Application, his Grace would find Means, the first time he went to the Court at Richmond, to prepare his Royal Highness to expect it; and that he hopd to do that next Thursday.

I shall to morrow send you, by the Waterman, a Copy of the Address proposd to be made in the Name of the Society, with a Copy of the printed Proposal, requesting you would be pleasd in the mean time to concert with Mr. Molyneux the manner of presenting it, in Hopes he will not decline accepting the Office proposd. I am with great Respect,

Rever.d Sir. Yours &c.a

H. N.

The Society have desird Mr. Bedford to wait on Mr. Molyneux about this Matter, and in Order to it he proposes to wait on you early next Friday Morning at Richmond, for your Instructions.

To Mr. Rowland Sherman
at Aleppo, Syria

Mid. Temple
30th July 1726

Honor.d Sir,

Read and Approved 26. July by the Comtee. Read at the Society and approvd 4. Aug.t 1726.

I receivd Via Marseilles, and by the Ships lately arrivd from Turkey, your Letters of y.e 23.d Novemb.r and 10.th Decemb.r 1725. and also of the 7. and 17. March last; which have been communicated to the Society, and the Contents of them so acceptable, that I am orderd particularly to desire you would accept of their Thanks for your great Care and Paines in their Affairs.

Sent to Joseph Tonson at Marseilles by 19.th Aug.t 1726. Postage pd 12.s

As to the Errata I presume I need not inform you that whatever escaped the Printer in one Copy will be found of Course in all the Copies, because the Number of every Sheet is intirely printed off before they proceed to another Sheet. In one of your Letters came the Memor.d of Errata which you have noted, and considering the many Difficulties attending this Enterprize, of employing an Arabick Founder, who never engrav'd or cast Letters before of that Kind; of employing a Composer at the Press, who did not understand one Word of Arabick; And that it is the first Attempt of that Kind, that ever the Correctors themselves undertook, The Society think they have been very fortunate in having no more Mistakes made, than what is comman for the King's Printer here to make in the English Book of Psalms, whether printed for the Bible or Common Prayer: But to remedy the same as much as possible (for it seems an endless piece of Work to be done by the penn, as well as impracticable in many Cases) I am

ordd

order'd to request your Opinion, whether it may be advisable to print the Errata, as you have sent them over, on a Slip of paper, to be pasted on one of the Blank Leaves at the Beginning or End of each Book, as is sometimes done here. This the Society hope will justify them and you, that the Faults are altogether undesigned, and not occasion'd by any Defect in the Copies sent from Aleppo.

They are likewise glad to find by Mr. Bedford's and Mr. Dadichi's Remarks, that the far greater part of them are only Literal Mistakes, which the Generality of Readers may easily rectify, and that there are but eleven by which the Sense may any where be rendred ambiguous.

The Cautions you have given will occasion the Correctors of the New Testament, to double their Care for preventing the like Errata in the Impression of it, which I am glad to tell you is now ready to be begun for 10. Thousand Copies of the Text only in 2. Columns, it being the unanimous Opinion of his Grace the Archbp. of Canterbury, and several of his Learned Brethren, that the Society should not venture upon printing the Annotations, the Contents or parallel places, before they had accomplish'd an Edition of the Text only; for as your Advices have determin'd them to print the Verses distinguish'd with Blanks at the End of each Verse, and to use the Orthographical Marks in the New Testament which were omitted in the Psalter, these Articles only, will occasion a considerable Increase of y^e Expence, and swell the Impression of the Text only, by the nearest Computation, to a large 4.^to in the least Letter.

A Learned Critick here has objected to printing the Proper Names of the New Testam^t with the Greek Terminations, in the Copy sent from Aleppo, as a Novelty that will be disgustful to the Christians in Palestine; but the Society confiding in your Judgment, and the Approbation of the Patriarchs of Antioch and Syria, which you seem to have had for the Copies sent over, they have resolv'd to keep close to it in that Respect as well as others.

If the Society can have your Approbation of printing the Errata in the Manner as propos'd above, before the next Return of the Ships to Scanderoon, you may expect as many Copies as you please to desire for the Copies remaining in your Hands.

It is with great Pleasure the Society have receiv'd the Information you give them of the Prudence and Zeal of the present Patriach of Antioch, and that the Copies of the Psalter were so acceptable to his Lordship: They hope from your good Offices whatever Defects may accompany the Impression of the New Testam^t, that they will be receiv'd with equal Candour, and prove a lasting Monument of the Affection of the Society, and the British Nation, to their Christian Brethren in Palestine.

The Article of Binding the New Test. only, 'tis computed will come to 750 £. at 18. pence ^p Book; the Society would therefore be glad to know, whether you can find Means to save any part of that Expence, if the Books are sent over to Aleppo in Quires.

I receiv'd from Mr. Kingston, the MS. Copy of the Life of S^t. Chrysostom in Arabick, the Impression of which the Society are obliged to postpone the Consideration of, till they have accomplish'd the New Testam^t. The Benefactions they have hitherto receiv'd being expressly appropriated to that purpose.

The Society have order'd several Copies of D^r. Pocock's Edit. of Grotius de veritate Religionis Christianæ to be prepar'd to be sent to you by the next Fleet, as what they are glad to observe may be acceptable to you.

Jan

Townshend had been so good as to recommend it to his Majesty, his Grace thought it would be equaly proper for Mr. Molyneux as his Royal Highness's Secretary, to lay the Proposal before the Prince. That to facilitate such an Application, his Grace would find Means, the first time he went to the Court at Richmond, to prepare his Royal Highness to expect it; and that he hop'd to do that next Thursday.

I shall to morrow send you by the Waterman a Copy of the Address propos'd to be made in the Name of the Society, with a Copy of the printed Proposal, requesting you would be pleas'd in the mean time to concert with Mr. Molyneux the manner of presenting it, in Hopes he will not decline accepting the Office propos'd. I am with great Respect,

Rever.d Sir. Yours &c.a

H:N.

The Society have desir'd Mr. Bedford to wait on Mr. Molyneux about this Matter, and in Order to it he proposes to wait on you early next Friday Morning at Richmond, for your Instructions.

To Mr. Rowland Sherman
at Aleppo, Syria

Honor.d Sir,

Read and Approved 26. July by the Comm.s. Read at the Society and approv'd 4. Aug.t 1726.

I receiv'd Via Marsellys, and by the Ships lately arriv'd from Turkey, your Letters of y.e 23.d Novem.br and 10.th Decem.br 1725. and also of the 7. and 17. March last; which have been communicated to the Society, and the Contents of them so acceptable, that I am order'd particularly to desire you would accept of their Thanks for your great Care and Paine in their Affairs.

Sent to Joseph Tonnet at Marseilles 19.th Aug.t 1726. Entd p.d 12.d

As to the Errata I presume I need not inform you that whatever escaped the Printer in one Copy will be found of Course in all the Copies, because the Number of every Sheet is intirely printed off before they proceed to another Sheet. In one of your Letters came the Memor.d of Errata which you have noted, and considering the many Difficulties attending this Enterprize, of employing an Arabick Founder, who never engrav'd or cast Letters before of that Kind; of employing a Compositer at the Press, who did not understand one Word of Arabick; And that it is the first Attempt of that Kind, that ever the Correctors themselves undertook, The Society think they have been very fortunate in having no more Mistakes made, than what is common for the Kings Printer here to make in the English Book of Psalms, whether printed for the Bible or Common prayer: But to remedy the same as much as possible (for it seems an endless piece of Work to be done by the Penn, as well as impracticable in many Cases) I am

Rec.d on Boa
Other Sow

order'd to request your Opinion, whether it may be advisable to print the Errata, as you have sent them over, on a Slip of paper, to be pasted on one of the Blank Leaves at the Beginning or End of each Book, as is sometimes done here. This the Society hope will justify them and you, that the Faults are altogether undesigned, and not occasion'd by any Defect in the Copies sent from Aleppo.

They are likewise glad to find by Mr. Bedford's and Mr. Sadichi's Remarks, that the far greater part of them are only Literal Mistakes, which the Generality of Readers may easily rectify, and that there are but eleven by which the Sense may any where be render'd ambiguous.

The Cautions you have given will occasion the Correctors of the New Testament, to double their Care for preventing the like Errata in the Impression of it, which I am glad to tell you is now ready to be begun for 10. Thousand Copies of the Text only in 2. Columns, it being the unanimous Opinion of his Grace the Archbp. of Canterbury, and several of his Learned Brethren, that the Society should not venture upon printing the Annotations, the Contents or parallel Places, before they had accomplish'd an Edition of the Text only; for as your Advices have determin'd them to print the Verses distinguish'd with Blanks at the End of each Verse, and to use the Orthographical Marks in the New Testament which were omitted in the Psalter, these Articles, only, will occasion a considerable Increase of [illegible] the nearest Computation, to a large

Board y[e] Happy Return Capt. Henry
Four Cases Mark S N. as Imp[t]
Octr 1st.
W Sympson

[illegible] ng the Proper Names of the New Testam[t]. [illegible]ppo, as a Novelty that will be disgustful [illegible]gin your Judgment, and the Approbation [illegible]ven to have had for the Copies sent over, they have resolv'd to keep close to it in that Respect as well as others.

If the Society can have your Approbation of printing the Errata in the Manner as propos'd above, before the next Return of the Ships to Scanderoon, you may expect as many Copies as you please to desire for the Copies remaining in your Hands.

It is with great Pleasure the Society have receiv'd the Information you give them of the Prudence and Zeal of the present Patriach of Antioch, and that the Copies of the Psalter were so acceptable to his Lordship: They hope from your good Offices whatever Defects may accompany the Impression of the New Testam[t] that they will be receiv'd with equal Candour, and prove a lasting Monument of the Affection of the Society, and the British Nation, to their Christian Brethren in Palestine.

The Article of Binding the New Test. only, 'tis computed will come to 750 £. at 18. pence p[r] Book; the Society would therefore be glad to know, whether you can find Means to save any part of that Expence, if the Books are sent over to Aleppo in Quires.

I received from Mr. Kingston, the MS. Copy of the Life of S[t] Chrysostom in Arabick, the Impression of which the Society are obliged to postpone 'till they have accomplish'd the New Testam[t] the Benefactions they have hitherto receiv'd being expressly appropriated to that purpose.

The Society have order'd several Copies of Dr. Pocock's Edit. of Grotius de veritate Religionis Christianæ to be prepar'd to be sent to you by the next Fleet, as what they are glad to observe may be acceptable to you.

Jn

In Answer to your Letter of the 21st July 1725. The Society have no Font of Armenian Letters, nor do they know of any in the Kingdom. The Font which was made in Holland by the Archbp of Gochton in Perso Armenia, some years since, for the Service of the Xtians in Armenia were, I believe, carried into Persia, but the Punchoons & Matrices may perhaps still remain either at Leyden or Amsterdam. This Archbp. had a very ingenious Nephew who directed all the Armenian Impressions then under his Uncle; but whether he dyed as his Uncle did, before he returned, I could never learn.

I have just Room to assure you that I am with all possible Respect,

Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

H: Newman.

A Copy of the Final Order of the Treasury for Doctor Mayo's receiving the King's Bounty of 500 £. for the Impression of the N. Testm in Arabic.

Dr Richard Mayo . . . Order is taken this 1st Day of Sept. 1726.

By virtue of his Majesty's General Letters of Privy Seal bearing Date the 29th Day of Sept. 1714. And in pursuance of a Warrant under his Majesty's Royal Sign Manual dated the 22d of June 1726. That you deliver and pay of such ... his Majesty's Treasure as remains in your Charge unto Doctor Richard Mayo or to his Assigns the Sum of Five hundred Pounds without Accompt as his Majesty's Encouragement to the Work performed or now performing, under the Care of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, of Printing the New Testament in Arabick, and these together with his or his Assigns Acquittance shall be your Discharge herein _____

£. s. d.
500 0 0

R Walpole
Cha: Turner.
Geo. Dodington.

Exam.r J: Halifax.

Copy of the Order of the Lords of the Treasury to Lord Halifax for the Paym.t of his Majesty Bounty of 500 £. to the Impression of the N. Test. in Arabick

After our hearty Recommendations by Vertue of the General Letters of Privy Seal bearing date the 29th Day of Septemb. 1714, and in pursuance of a Warr.t made, under His Majesty's Royal Sign Manual dated the 22. instant: These are to pray and require your Lordship to draw an Order for paying unto Dr. Rich.d Mayo or his Assigns the Sum of fifive hundred pounds without Account as his Majesty's Encouragement to the Work performed or now performing under the Care of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, of printing the New Testament in Arabick, and let the said Order be satisfied out of any Money in the Receipt of the Exchequer applicable to the Uses of His Majesty's Civil Government, and for so doing this shall be your Warrant.

Wit. Copy of y.e Order in the preceding folio.

Whitehall Treasury Chambers 31.st August 1726.

R. Walpole.
Will. Yonge.
Geo: Dodington.

To our very good Lord George Earl of Halifax.
Auditor of the Receipt of his Majesty's Exchequer.

Dr. Richard Mayo 500 £. his Majesty's Encouragem.t for printing the N. Test. in Arabick.

Memorand. Charges at the Treasury for taking out the Order for his Majesty's Bounty of 500 £. towards an Impression of the New Testament in Arabick.

		£.	s.	d.
1726.				
July 20th.	Paid to Mr. Rerisford for the Lent of the Original Warr.t to Shew to the Rt. Honble S.r Spencer Compten . . .		10:	6.
Octob.r 8.	Sign Manual, Warrant and Order		5..	12.. 6.
	Stamps and Messengers			10.. —
	To the Clerks of the Treasury			10.. 6.
	Door keepers			5.. —
12.	Mr. Ireland for the Auditors Fee		6..	5.. —
	Mr. Cowdry Register			7.. —
	Doorkeeper at Lord Halifax's Office			2.. 6.
13.	At the Pell's Office		3..	9: 6.
	At the Tellers Office for Fees	16: — —		
	Do. Tax 6.s p.r £.	12: 10: —	27..	10: —
		£.	45..	2: 6.

To the Revd. Doct. Felton,
Master of Edmund College,
Oxford.

Revd. Sir,

Read the 18. Oct. at the Comrs. and ord.d to be sent forwards.

You will see by the Proposals herewith sent you what Motives the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge have been induced to undertake an Impression of the Psalter and New Testament in Arabick.

They have been happily enabled by the charitable Contributions of their own Members and divers other well disposd Persons to accomplishing an Edition of upwards of 6000 Psalters, most of which are already sent bound to Aleppo, and thankfully accepted by the Patriarch of Antioch with many Blessings on the British Nation, as a most use full supply ..... to the Christians in those parts; but the Impression of the New Testament requiring a more ample Fund, they have been oblig'd to renew their Solicitations for further Aids to carry on this Design: in Consequence of which His Majesty has been graciously pleas'd to Order a Bounty of 500 £. to be paid, and the same is accordingly paid to the Revd. Dr. Mayo the Society's Treasurer for this purpose.

This Royal Example the Society hope may be chearfully follow'd by all who are able and willing to promote the Cause of Christianity in Mahometan Countries, nor is it to be doubted that the Universitty of Oxford will shew their Zeal for encouraging so Christian an Undertaking, when they are acquainted with the Reasons for it, which you are therefore requested to recommend in the most respectfull Manner to the Revd. the Vicechancellor and other Heads of Houses for their Countenance and Encouragem.t in Confidence of which and other Charities for carrying on this Work the Society have actually begun to print 10. Thousand Copies of the New Testament in Arabick at London, under the ablest Correctors that can be procurd for such a Service.

Your good Offices on this Occasion will at least be a proof of your Zeal for the Honour of God, and be thankfully acknowledged by the Society.

I am with great Respect,
Revd. Sir,
Your most Obed.t humble Servt.
H. Newman

Middle Temple
21. Octr. 1726.

To the Right Worshipfull & Revd
Dr Craven,
Vicechancellor of Cambridge

Rever.d Sir,

N.B. This Letter was sent the 24th Novemb.r under a Frank from the Bp. of Rochester.

Upon several Representations of the great Usefullness and Charity of furnishing the poor Christians in Palestine, and other Eastern Countries, with printed Copies of the Psalter and New Testament in Arabick, the Society, at London, for promoting Christian Knowledge, have been inclined to undertake an Impression of both those Books, and the Right Rever.d the Lords the Bishops, with many others of the Rev.d Clergy, as well as of the Nobility and Gentry, have chearfully assisted by their good Offices and Contributions to promote it, by which Means the Society have been enabled to print off upwards of 6000. Psalters in 8.vo most of which are already sent bound to Aleppo, and thankfully accepted by the Patriarch of Antioch, with many Blessings on the British Nation for so seasonable a Supply, to the Christians in those parts: But the Impression of the New Test.t requiring a larger Fund to accomplish it, the Society have been obliged to solicit further Assistance to carry on this Design, in Consequence of which, the Right Honoble the Lord Townshend has been so good as to obtain from his Majesty a Bounty of 500 £. which the Noble Sr Robt Walpole has since ordered to be paid, and the same is accordingly paid to the Revd Dr Mayo the Society's Treasurer for this purpose.

This gracious Encouragm.t from his Majesty has very much animated the Society to proceed in the Undertaking, and to extend the Impression to 10,000. Copies in 4.to in hopes that GOD may incline the Hearts of other Rich & charitable Benefactors to enable them to accomplish it.

The Society promise themselves that a Design of this Nature cannot but be countenanced by both our Universities, when it is recommended by those Learned Bodies by proper Hands.

I am therefore ordered, by the Society, in the most respectfull manner to desire that you would permit them to recommend to you, and by you to the Heads of Houses at Cambridge, to promote the Advancement of this Undertaking in the University, in such manner as you and they shall think proper: And whatever Encouragm.t may be effected by your good Offices on this Occasion, if it be paid to the Revd Mr Washington of Peter House, he will remit it to the Revd Dr Mayo.

I have the Honour to be, with great Respect,

Revd Sir, Your most obed.t humble Servt

H. N.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir.

I enclose your Petition to the Prince, with a hasty Copy of a Letter to be sent with it to Mr. Molyneux, which we think will be more proper than the Two Lines you had prepar'd to go with it. I do not send it as a Copy to be exactly follow'd, but as a Form of what we think may be fit to be put into any other Words you please to draw it up in.

In the Petition, it has been consider'd that by specifying the Sum his Majesty has given you, it may be thought you prescribe too much to the Prince's Bounty, and therefore it is offer'd to you, to mention rather in General, that the King has been pleas'd to encourage it, and give his Royal Countenance to your Work; and leave Mr. Molyneux to inform the Prince what the King has given towards it.

If you please to review the Petition, and prepare a Letter somewhat after the manner I have propos'd to you, my Lords the Bishops will subscribe in it such a Number as may be thought Convenient? I heartily wish all good Success to it. I am Sir, Your very Loving Friend.

28th Feb. 1726/7. W. Cant.

To the Hon.ble Samuel Molyneux Esq.r
Principal Secretary to His
Royal Highness.

Sr

The Work mentioned in the enclosed Petition, which we take the Liberty to send to you, at the Request of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, is so pious, and if it can be finish'd as they propose will be of such great Use to promote and preserve the true Doctrine of the Gospel in those Eastern Countries for whose Service it is designed, that as we could not but encourage it our selves, so we cannot refuse to recommend it to You. We hope you will assist them with your Endeavours to represent the Advantages of it to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales in the strongest Manner; That as it has met with His Majesty's most gracious Encouragement, it may also obtain his Royal Highness's Favour; and by

their

their great Examples Others may be excited to contribute towards an Undertaking, which, without some extraordinary Assistance, we fear will be too heavy a Burden for the Society to be able to bear.

We are, Sir, Your humble servants.

W. Cant.
Edm. London.
W. Duresm
Sam: Roffen
Edward Chichester
J. Asaph.
Jo. Norwich.
Ric. St. Davids.
Sam. Lestriens.
Wm. Bristol.

1. March. 1726/7.

To Mr. Rowland Sherman
merdt. at Aleppo in Syria.

Mid. Temple
6th June. 1727.

Honoured Sr.

My last was of the 30th July. 1726 in answer to yours of 10th Decr. 1725. & 7th & 17th March 1725/6. since which I have not been favoured with any from you though I have had the pleasure to hear of yr. health by Mr. Kingston several times.

The Society would be glad to have your opinion in answer to my last about printing the Errata of the Psalter on a Slip of paper so as to be pasted on one of the blank leaves at the begining or end of each book, as is sometimes done here, which they hope will justify them and you that the Faults are altogether undesigned and not occasioned by any defects in the Copy sent from Aleppo. And also to be informed whether means can be easily found to bind either Psalters or Testaments at Aleppo if Copies should be sent over to you in Quires, towards lessening the charge of binding here, which for the

10. thousand
the N. Testam.t only in plain Calf computed at 18.d ^
N.t Test.t will come to 750. l. and for each large Psalter
at 9.d and the Smaler at 5.d will cost 150. l. more,
both which Articles only would take up all the
present Fund for carrying on these Impressions.

It will be a pleasure to the Society to hear what
Number of the Arab. Psalters sent to ym in. 1724.
& 1725. have been disposed of, and to what parts
of Asia or Africa: The Society purpose to send
1000. more Psalters by the next Shipping, or to
reserve them here as ym shall advise.

The Impression of the N. Test. is advanced, as far
as the Epistle General of St. James which makes 51.
sheets in 4.to so far, and the Corrector hopes to finish
it in about 6. or 8. weeks more so that such a
number as may be termed practicable shall be
sent to ym in the next Ships, though the Binder
doubts whether they will be dry enough for binding
so soon, because though the Paper may be dry enough
yet thinks the Ink of the Letters will not so as to
bear Beating & Preßing for which in Curious Editions
they generally allow 8. or 10. months in a dry
Room, the only Quality of the Ink requiring that
time to be hardened & dry so as to give no
blackness to the adjoyning leaves when they are
beat & prest by the Binder.

This is sent to ym by way of Marseilles & Constan-
-tinople in hopes one of them may reach your
hands time enough to the favour of me with yr. answer

before

before the departure of the Ships from Leghorn
-deroon.

The Society will always be glad to hear of yr.
health, and the success of the present Patriarch in all
his pious cares for the Service of our Holy Religion.

I am with great respect
Sr. Yr. most obed.t humble Serv.t
H. N.

Pray what will be
the charge of binding a
4.to book of 60. sheets at
Aleppo? Supposing the Society might
be able hereafter to make a remittance
thither for binding some Copies.

[NB Sent enclosed one leaf of St. Matth. Gospel as a
Specimen of the Impression.

To Mr. Thomas
Merch.t in London,

Middle Temple
th
8. Aug.t 1727.

Read.d 1. Aug.t 1727
at the Commrs and
approvd

Sir,

Being inform'd that you intend a Journey to Oxford;
I take the Liberty to acquaint you that the Rever.d Dr. Felton has been as good
as to solicit the Vice chancellor and other heads of houses there to favour the
Design the Society have engaged in of printing the New Testament in Arabick,
and they have generally given him hopes of succeeding therein; but I don't yet
understand that they have ~~done~~ come to any particular Resolutions, which
I need not tell you would be extremely acceptable to the Society at this
Juncture, to enable them to accomplish what is so far advanced.

If you meet Dr. Felton at Oxford, the Society will esteem it a favour
if you will please to learn of him how far his kind Solicitations have
succeeded; And if it should be in your way to join your good Offices with
his to that Learned Body in obtaining a final Resolution on this head,
you would not only oblige the Society, but all the Wellwishers to y.r Undertaking

I have already acquainted Dr. Felton, according to his Desire, what the University of Cambridge have done, and I have reason to believe you will find so good a Disposition in those you apply to of that Body, as to make any further Argum.t unnecessary than the Design itself, to prompt their Benevolence.

I heartily wish you a good Journey and rest,

Sr Your obed.t humbl.e Servant.

N: Newman

P.S.

It is recommended also to you to confer with Dr. Pardo of Principal of Jesus College on this Subject, he being a hearty Friend to the Society.

To Mr. Rowland Sherman,
Merchant at Aleppo.

Middle Temple,
21. Sept. 1727.

Honor.d Sir,

Read at the Commee 26th Sept.r and approvd; and ordered to be forwarded.

Sent by the Primrose Amalia Capt.n Winniprot

I have shipp'd by Order of the Society, on Board of the Amalia Captain Winnicot Commander in 2. Cases marked as below, 300 New-Testaments in Arabick, being all that the Bookbinder could get bound before the Departure of the Ships for Scandaroon; 200. Copies are bound in Calf, of which Six Copies are gilt on the Back, which the Society desire your Accep=tance of for Presents to your Friends, and 100. more coverd with Paper with Leather Backs: To these are added 100. Grotius de Veritate Religionis Christianæ in Arabick, as printed by Doct.r Pocock, which you will dispose of where you think they will do most Good.

The Officer on Board the Amelia, that received the Parcells, declind giving a Receipt for them, I suppose to avoid their being reckond into the Cargo of the Ship, because they are to go Freight Free, Mr. Eaton having been so good as to obtain that favour, which I beg you to thank him and the Captain for, and all others concernd in granting this Indulgence.

I received your Favours of the 10.th and 17.th April with Duplicates via Leghorn and Marseilles, for which the Society thank you. The Errata you therein mention to have been in the Arabick MS. were, as our Correctors informe, all corrected in the Impression before the Letter came to hand.

You will observe that the Orthographical Marks and the Division of Verses, in the manner you advised, has run the Work out to many more Sheets

Sheets than it would have reach'd to in the Method the Psalter was p[rinted] in; but the Society dont grudge the Expence, if it answers the good Ends intended by it.

The Volume of a 4to was judg'd to be more proper than a large 8vo. because the Orientalists are used to carry their Books in their Bosoms more than in their Pockets; though the 8vo. Volume would have saved a considerable Charge in the Article of binding, which alone will come to upwards of £700 if they were all bound in Calf. There is therefore a Specimen of two other Sorts of binding, which may be afforded cheaper sent in each parcell, that if you approve of 'em, more Copies in the like binding may be sent by the next Opportunity: It being the desire of the Society to follow your Advice for Sending out all the Copies bound, though in a cheaper manner, if their Fund should not enable them to give the Binding in Calf.

As to what you mention of a Concordance, there is no such Thing extant here in Arabick, nor indeed was it easily practicable to make one till the Scripture was digested into Chapters and Verses in the manner this Edition is made, And I suppose that was one of your Views in recommending the Impression to be made in the manner it is; but the making of a Concordance is a Work of vast Labour and time, which none can be so fit to undertake, as some Learned Ecclesiastick, at Leisure, in the Greek Church, which the Patriarch may put it into the hands of; And when it is done, it is hop'd Good Providence may raise up Means either to print it at Aleppo or here, as shall be found most practicable.

The Society are very much obliged to, and again thank you for all the Pains you have taken to bring this Edition to the Issue it has; and hope by the Acceptance and Usefullness of the Copies now sent, to be encouraged to present you with a larger Parcell by the next Ships.

They are very much concern'd for the Difficulties that attend the good Patriarch in the Discharge of his Holy Function; but they hope God will enable him to surmount them, and make him the happy Father of his Flock.

The Society intend to print the Errata of the Psalter in a Slip of Paper to be pasted on the Copies to be hereafter sent out; but the finishing of the Impression of the New Testament, has so much engaged the Attention of all our Correctors, that it could not be done before the Sailing of these Ships, with that Correctness as they wish'd.

You are desir'd to give the Thanks of the Society to D. Pedro de Oliva for the Care he was pleas'd to take in transmitting Instructions for our Correctors, relating to the Orthographical Marks, which they hope he will find has been strictly observ'd.

I shall write to you Via Leghorne and Marseilles, and hope you will favour me at Occasion offers the same Way, and by Shipping, of the good Acceptance of the Psalters and New Testaments, and into what Parts of the East, and with what Success they have been distributed by the Patriarchs and your Care. I hope you receiv'd my Letters of June last, Via Constantinople and Marseilles.

May God Almighty reward all your good Offices in promoting this Work, and prolong your Life and Health so much devoted to his Glory, is the ardent Wish of the Society, as well as of

Hon.d Sir,

Your most obed.t humble Serv.t

H. N.

London. 26. Sept. 1727.

Shipd on Board the Amalia Capt.n Winnecot
Commander for Scandaroon, and consigned to
Mr. Rowland Sherman at Aleppo:

N.o 1. R.S.N. One Chest containing	112.	Arab. N. Tstam.t in plain Calf
	3.	Do. . . . . Gilt.
	18.	Do. . . . . Purple.
	17.	Do. . . . . Marble
	50.	Grotius &c. in Arabick.
	200.	
N.o 2. R.S.N. One Chest containing	82.	Arab. N. Tstam.t plain Calf
	3.	Do. . . . . Gilt.
	32.	Do. . . . . Purple.
	33.	Do. . . . . Marble.
	50.	Grotius de Veritate &c.a in Arabic.
	200.	

In all 300. New Tstaments.
100. Grotius de Veritate Religionis Xianæ.
400.

Henry Newman.

To Mr. Rowl. Sherman
Merch.t at Aleppo.

Middle Temple —
25.th Sept.r 1727.

Sir. I have wrote largely by the Amalia Capt.n Winnecot, in whom the Society have sent 300. New Tstaments in Arabick, and 100. Grotius de Veritate Religionis Xianæ which I wish safe to your hands, they being all that could be got ready by these Ships.

By the Happy Return, Capt.n Other Comand.r

I am with great Respect, Sir, Your most obed.t humble Serv.t
H: N.

Barrington 37

For Mr. Eaton Barrington
in Austin Fryars.

Middle Temple
25th Octr. 1727.

Sir,

The Socisty for promoting Xtian Knowledge have ordered me to desire your Acceptance of their Thanks for your Kindness in procuring a Conveyance of the 2 Parcels of New Testaments in Arabick, on Board the Nile for Alexandria; and pray you would be pleas'd to recommend it to your Correspondent there to forward them by the first good Opportunity to Scandaroon, directed to Mr. Sherman at Aleppo, who is desir'd to defray any Charge for freight &c. for such Conveyance

I am Sir, Your most obed. humble Servt.
H. N.

I am also order'd to desire your Acceptance of the Copy of the N. Test. in Arabick herewith sent, as a Memorial of our Esteem &c.

To Mr. Rowland Sherman
Merchant at Aleppo.

Middle Temple
14th Octr. 1727.

P. S. to the Lres of the 21st/25th Sept. 1727

Honor.d Sir,

Above are Copies of what I wrote by the Amalia and Happy Return, since which I am sorry to find Captain Winnicot has been obliged to return the Books above mention'd ashore for want of Room to carry them: But Mr. Eaton has been so good as to get Leave to ship them on the Nile bound to Alexandria, with some other Things also return'd to him, and from thence I hope they may be safely convey'd to Scandaroon by some Coaster in your Partr. And whatever Charge there may be to you or your Correspondents, by means of this Conveyance for Freight or otherwise, be pleas'd to draw upon me for, and for fear of Mortality direct your Bill of Exchange also to the Revd. Mr. Denne Treasurer to the Socisty for this Branch of their Designs, and due honor will be paid to it.

By the Nile Geo: Matthews Mast. for Scandaroon.

vid. June 6. M. 10. 1728. and 20. Sept. Min. 1. and 1. Oct. Min. 2. of the same year.

I have herewith sent a Specimen of an intended Edition of the Bible in Hebrew, which I shall be glad to have your and D. Pedro Oliva's Sentiments of, though the Society are not concern'd in promoting it,

otherwise

otherwise than as our Members in their private Capacity please to encourage it.

I shall be obliged to you to be favour'd with another List of the Errata in the Psalter, to which perhaps you have some Additions to make, those which you favour'd me with formerly, being put into the hands of one or more of our Correctors, and I doubt so mislay'd as not easily to be found.

I am with all possible Respect,

Sir, Your most obed.t humble Servant.

Henry Newman.

To Mr. Rowl.d Sherman
Merchant at Aleppo.

Middle Temple
5.th Dec.r 1727.

Sir,

6.th Dec.r 1727.
Left with Mr. Kingston who promis'd to send it via Marseilles.

I have herewith sent Copies of what I sent by the Amalia, Happy Return and the Nile, to which I have only to add, that the Society will be very glad to hear particularly how you have distributed the Psalters, and what more may be necessary to supply the Wants of the Poor Christians in Syria &c.a And also to know into what parts you propose to distribute the New Testaments; and whatever Numbers you promise to your Friends the Patriarchs &c.a not exceeding 10. Thousand of the New Testament, the Society hope to be able to comply with.

I am with my hearty Wishes for your Health and Prosperity

Sir, Your most obed.t
H. N.

To Mr. Rowland Sherman,
Merch.t at Aleppo.

Middle Temple
15.th March 1728.

Sir,

27.th March 1728.
Left with Mr. Kingston who promis'd to send it via Marseilles.

I have herewith sent you a Copy of my last, Via Marseilles, and it is with the utmost concern to the Society that I am oblig'd to acquaint you, that two or three Months after the Departure of the Nile, Mr. Eaton informs me that by the Mistake of his Servant the two Parcells of New Testaments in Arabick remain in his Storehouse, tho he had given positive Directions for Shipping of them, and assur'd me ..... that they were accordingly shipp'd in the Nile. It is some Consolation to me, since I have conferr'd with Mr. Kingston, to understand that this Disappointment may not hinder their coming to your hands as soon by the next Ships from hence, as if they had gone by the Way of Egypt, where they would have had a Chance to be detain'd by the Scrupulosity of the Turks.

I have

I have been in hopes of sending them by some private Ships either to Italy or Turkey, so as that they might come to your hands by the next Return of our Scandaroon Ships; but after a full Consideration, Mr. Eaton and Mr. Kingston both have advised that they would be in Danger of the Inquisition in any Romish Country, and to be detain'd by the Turkish Bigots in any Mahometan Country: Upon all which Accounts the Society have been oblig'd to content themselves with resting satisfy'd with the Hopes of shipping them by the next Return of Ships from hence, with a considerable Augmentation of the Number.

I receiv'd your Letter of the 2. of October in January last, and communicated the Contents of it to the Society, and to their Correctors of the Arabick Impressions; but what Errors may have escap'd the Impression of the New Testament, the Impression being finish'd, can't now be rectify'd but by the Leer, or printing such Errata at the Beginning or End of the Book as you shall desire.

Doctor Lisle and Mr. Soley are well, but the former being fixt at Lambeth and oblig'd to a constant Attendance on his Grace of Canterbury, and the other being lately preferr'd to Alresford, a fine Living in Hampshire where he is married, the Society cannot promise themselves the Honour of their Company and Advice in Relation to the Arabick Affairs, for which Reason they hope you will be very full and particular in signifying your Pleasure about what remains to be done.

If you purpose to send any of the Copies of the New Testaments to Grand Cairo or Alexandria in Egypt, or Joppa, the Society would be glad to know your Correspondents at any or all of those Places; and whether if by any unforseen accident they should be disappointed of sending them directly to Scandaroon, it may not ease you of some Trouble if they can be sent directly to those Places, consign'd as you shall order,

Sir,

Your most obliged humble Servant.

H. N.

P.S. Being confin'd to my Bed by a violent Cold and Head Ach, I hope you will excuse my making Use of my Clerk's Hand in Transcribing this Letter.

A worthy Gentleman at Narva in the Baltick signify'd to the Society that if he had a parcel of Psalters and N. Test. in Arabic, he could very well dispose of them among the Persian Slaves in the Russian Conquests. The Society are inclin'd to send him a small Number by way of Specimen, and would be glad of your Opinion of this Proposal, whether it may give any Umbrage to the Mahometans, to the Hazard of the Impression.

My humble Duty to the Patriarch of Antioch, and let him know that the Society always rejoyce to hear of his Lordship's Health and Prosperity.

To Mr. Rowland Sherman,
Merch.t at Aleppo.

Bartlett's Building
London. 27.th Sept.r 1728.

Memor.
Sent a Copy of this Letter by each of the under-mentioned Ships, viz. Hallifax, Tweane, and Wentworth, with an Invoice and Bill of Lading.

Sir

I have begun a long Letter to you, which having not time yet to finish, I herewith cover an Invoice and Bill of Lading for 1300. in arabic New Testaments, and 400. Grotius de veritate Religionis Christianæ in Arabic.

There is now in the Press a Catechetical Instruction, agreeable to what you thought necessary for the Use of Young People; A Copy of which I hope to send to you in English, since it will be impossible to have the Arabick Translation imprinted time enough to overtake the Ships.

I forbear to

d 10. Sept. 6. Mins
and Oct. 1. Min. 3
1728.

I offer'd to pay Mr. Kingston for the Freight of these Books, to save you the Trouble of any Expence on that Account, but he said it could not be done till the Ships were arrived, and that it would be time enough to do it when your Order for receiving it should come to hand. My last was of the 15th March Via Marseilles, since which I have the Honour of Yours of the same Month, and am to thank you for the List of Errata in the Psalter which it covered, though the Society have not yet taken a Resolution what use to make of them. I beg Leave to refer you to my next, and remain

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servt

H. N.

To Mr. Rowl. Sherman
at Aleppo.

Bartlet's Buildings
28th. Sept. 1728.

Sir,

By the Halifax
Capt. Butler

Yesterday I wrote by each of the three Ships now going to Scandaroon, and cover'd an Invoice and Bill of Lading of the 1300. New Testam.ts in Arabick sent by them. I now send an English Copy of what is translated into Arabick, with the Approbation of his Grace the Archbp. of Canterbury, and printing at the Charge of the Society; but is not like to be ready to overtake these Ships. The printed Abridgment of the History of the Bible is placed first, and the Nat. Account of the cheif Truths of the Christian Religion follows it: Both these it's hoped are couch'd in such Terms as to give no Offence to our Brethren of the Greek Church, nor even to the candid Mahometan, that will vouch safe to peruse it.

I am Sir,

Your most Obedient
Humble Servant

H. N.

To Mr. Rowl.d Sherman
Merch.t Aleppo.

Bartlet's Buildings
4. Oct.r 1728.

N.B. The Books were sent on Board the Halifax by Mr. Knight at Deal

Sr

This accompanys half a hundred of the Abridgm.t of the Hist. of the Bible and General Truths of the Christian Religion, as a Specimen of what the Society intended to send you a Number of. I wish there may overtake the Ships now going, and am

Sir, Your most obed.t humble Servant.

H. N.

London 26th Sept. 1728.

Invoice of Nine Chests of Books, shipt on Board the undermentioned Ships, by Mr. Henry Newman, on Account and by Order of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, and consigned to Mr. Rowland Sherman, Merchant at Aleppo.

By the Halifax Capt. Geo: Butler Commander for Scandaroon.

No 1. R.S.N.	A Chest cont.a	112.	Arabick New Testam.t	in plain Calf.
		3. Do.		Gilt.
		18. Do.		in Purple.
		7. Do.		in Marble.
		50.	Grotius de Ve.a	in Arabick.
		200.	Arabick New Testam.t	150.
No 2.	A Chest cont.a	82.	Arabick New Testam.t	in plain calf.
		3. Do.		Gilt.
		32. Do.		in Purple.
		33. Do.		in Marble.
		50.	Grotius de V.a	in Arabick.
		200.	Arabick New Testamt.	150.
No 3.	A Chest cont.a	40.	Arabick New Testam.t	in Marble.
		39. Do.		in Purple.
		61. Do.		in plain Calf.
		140.		140.
No 4.	A Chest cont.a	40.	Arabi New Testam.t	in Marble.
		40. Do.		in Purple.
		60. Do.		in plain Calf.
		140.		140.

By the Ducane Capt.n Wm Spencer Commander for Scandaroon.

No 5.	A Chest cont.a	40.	Arabick New Testam.t	in Marble.
		40. Do.		in Purple.
		60. Do.		in plain Calf.
		140.		140.
No 6.	A Chest cont.a	40.	Arabi New Testam.t	in Marble.
		40. Do.		in Purple.
		60. Do.		in plain Calf.
		140.		140.
No 7.	A Chest cont.a	42.	Arabic New Testam.t	in Marble.
		39. Do.		in Purple.
		59. Do.		in plain Calf.
		140.		140.

By the Wentworth Capt.n Robt. Jax Commander for Scandaroon.

No 8.	A Chest cont.a	Arabick New Testam.t	bound in plain Calf.	150.
No 9.	A Chest cont.a	Arabick New Testam.t	bound in plain Calf.	150.

Arabi New Testamnts. 1300.

Grotius de Veritate Religionis Xtiana in arabic. 100.

By Order of the Soc.y Henry Newman Sec.y

To Mr. Rowland Sherman
at Aleppo

Sir,

Having been intrusted by the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, as one of the Correctors of the Arabick New Testament lately printed under their Direction, I have at the desire of those Gentlemen with the best Skill I have been able, examin'd the List of Errata in that Impression which you have been pleas'd to send them; And I am sure your Candour will excuse both my Freedom in giving my Thoughts on them, and the Mistakes I may have committed in so doing. For I am but too sensible of the Disadvantages, one who is neither a Native, nor ever was in the Country must lie under, in playing the Critic in so difficult a Language as the Arabick. I shall therefore without further Apology proceed to acquaint you, that the Errata at first sight really surprized me, being perswaded that the other Gentlemen concern'd in the Correction, had, as well as my self, taken the utmost Care and Pains to prevent the smallest Mistake: but on perusing & comparing the Errata with the Edition, I must own I was much pleas'd to find the greatest part of them such, as I at present can't allow to be Faults, and those which are so generaly of small Consequence, and such as an ordinary Reader may immediately discern and correct; I must always except that of Galat. 3: 10. which as you justly observe spoils the direct Sense of the Text.

For your Ease and my own, I beg Leave to distinguish these Errata into three Classes, the First of those which are really Faults. The Second of those which are meerly the accidental Imperfections of the Press Work: And the Third of those which I conceive to be no Faults at all.

1. Of the first Class I can make out no more than 24. of which at least one half are immaterial, and some meer critical Niceties. I shall here give you a List of these allowd Faults in two Divisions, One of such as I judge material, the other of those I take not to be so.

Material Faults.

تحقّق	for	تحقّقه	Mat. 2: 16.
بسواسن	for	بسوسن	— 6: 28.
فيكون	for	فتلون	— 27: 64
خرج	for	خارج	Mark 13: 1.
الفطيران	for	الفطيراذ	— 14: 12.
بسنّة	for	بسنة	Luke 4: 19.
المرصية	for	المرضية	Rom. 12: 2.
باقان	for	باقون	1 Corinth. 15: 6.
من يثبت	for	من لايثبت	Galat. 3: 10.
العهدتان	for	العهدان	— 4: 24.
فيتنبّأ	for	فيتنبّأن	Revel. 11: 3.

The Ms. is فيتنبّيا × the Correction in yr. List فتنبّيا both wch as well as the printed word I take to be wrong.

الويد for الويل Revel. 18: 19.

Immaterial Faalts.

بنوا	for	بنو	Matth. 8: 12
		بنو	— 9: 15.
اللّذين	for	الّذين	— 11: 8
واذا	for	واذ	— 12: 15.
وكلوا	for	كلوا	— 26: 26.
وكل	for	ولكل	Luke 5: 9.
العسرين	for	العشرين	— 21 Fille
فاد	for	فاذ	Acts 5: 5.
فاذا	for	فاذا	—: 27.
اذ	for	اذا	— 10: 32
برناباس	for	بارناباس*	— 15: 25
٣٥	for	٢٥	Galat. 4. 25

* This Name is written against the Genius of the tongue, wch ablions 3 Consonants in one Syllable.

2. Those of the Second Class, though they be Eye Sores, yet cannot be properly put into a List of Errata, being accidental, and happening differently in different Copies; Several of those undermentioned, for Example, not appearing in the Copy I made use of; which in Return has several other Imperfections of the same Kind in other Places not taken Notice of in your List, and therefore I presume not to be seen in the Copy of the Gentlemen who made that List: And this is far from being strange to those who are acquainted with the practical Part of Printing. For these Faults are occasioned at the Press, by casual battering or blotting of Letters, or the Workman's not Inking them equally, and being committed after the the Proof Sheet has undergone the last Correction, it is not in the Power of any Corrector, or even the Printer to prevent them.

The Errata in the List of this Kind are the following, of which those I have struck a Line under, don't appear in my Copy any ways amiss

Matt. 6:10. 24:44. Mark 13: 32. 14:19,20. Luke 2:29, 30, 32. 5:17. 10:35. 18:30. 19:42. Acts 15:41. 1. Corinth 4.21. Ephes. 6:13. 1. Tim. 3:12. 2. Tim. 4:7. Titus 1:9,10. James 1:17. Revel. 1:1. 11:9.

I beg Leave to mention another Imperfection, which sometimes happens at the Press, and that is when one or more Letters are quite taken out of the Form they lie in, by Sticking to the Ink-Balls. And I suspect the Negative Particle لا Gal. 3. 10. to have been taken out in that manner, by the Space between the forgoing and following Words.

3. The 3. Class comprehends all the remaining Errata in the List; and the Corrections here offer'd are conceiv'd to be, Either Alterations directly contrary to the Greek Text, and therefore not to be justify'd, as,

John 8. 5. The Correction and the MS. both are نرجم مثل هولاء that we should stone such: but the Greek is τὰς τοιαύτας λιθοβολεῖσθαι that such should be stoned. And therefore نرجم is alter'd in the printed Copies very justly ترجم. Some Greek Copies have indeed λιθάζειν.

Acts 23. 17. The MSS. and the Impression are, as the Sense plainly requires, and the Original is, يخبره به to tell him. But the Amendment is directly repugnant to both, تخبرني به that thou should'st tell me. Unless it was design'd for Verse 19. but there my Copy is right.

Ephes. 1. 17. The MSS. agrees with the Amendment لكي الاله ربّنا that God our Lord Jesus Christ &c. but the Impression is لكي اله ربّنا that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, conformable to the Greek.

ἵνα ὁ θεὸς τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν — — ὁ θεός

Coloss. 2. 8. The Correction is العالم لا المختص so also the MSS. but the printed Copy rightly has it ولا for the Copulative is in the Greek.

2. Thess. 2. 14. The MSS and Correction both are للذي دعاهم [اللّـه] whereunto (God) hath called them: But the printed Copies are justly alter'd دعاكم whereunto he called you, as the Greek is, and the Sense manifestly requires.

Or Vulgarisms instead of proper and grammatical Terms as

Luke 1 : 5. — : 8. — : 23. 10 : 4. 2. Cor. 9 : 12. — : 13. } خدمة for خذمة

Acts 2 : 7. — : 12. 3 : 10 — : 11. 9 : 6 10 : 45 12 : 16 13 : 12 } دهل for ذهل

Luke 7 : 47. اثنيها for اثنينها the Casual ن being, according to the Rule, thrown out because of the Suffix.

15 : 19. انفذ for انفذ.

17 : 12. جريماء for جريما

1 Thess. 1 : 8. لم يحتج for لم يحتاج the Alif being regularly thrown out, except in particular Instances.

Luke 23:56 عداًن for هذين. Mss. هذين James 5:5. غذيتم for غديتم
web is also wrong. Rewl. 12:14. جاعا for جاعا
John 10:1. حظير for حضير Nominative, as it should be here.

Or else alterations of no manner of Moment at best, but generally for the worse, as,

Matth. 10.10. عصاه (I suppose for عصاة there being no Word to answer the Affix in the Greek) for عصا as the Mss. is.

— 17.27. اسطاتيرا for سطاتيرا as the Mss. also rightly is. The Arabs & Syrians constantly putting an ا before foreign Words begining with س which they cannot otherwise well pronounce.

— 26.41. فستعدّ for فستعدّة. I take روح to be of the common Gender.

— 27.64. فمر for فامر. This Amendment is unnecessary, for امر in the Imperative throws away both the ا of the Imperative and Hamza, (the one ا be sometimes retained) so كل خذ &c.

Mark 2.21.
Luke 5.6.
John 21.11. } خرق for خزق, which I take to be the more proper Word of the two, خزق signifying to pierce, the other to tear or rend.

Acts 1.25. رسالة for رسولية, Apostleship. This is a Correction of the Mss. and I think needless, for I take the last Word to be as proper in this place as the other.

Acts 4.25. هذوا for هدثوا. What هدثوا is I don't know. The Mss. is هدت but the printed Copy has in my Opinion been justly alterd to هذوا. هذي is absurd a loqui, delirare.

Ephes 3.8. يستقرّ for يستقري. قرّ in the 10th Conjugation does not signify to search out, قري does.

1 Tim. 6.10. لجّوا for يحنوا. The Mss. has ... يحنوا a Word I am sorry I don't understand, so I presume ... لجّوا which signifies to pierce, the proper Sense here, was put in its Room. The Amendment offer'd in my Judgment, makes no Sense in this Place.

These

There, Sir, are my Thoughts of this List of Errata, wherein if I have been Mistaken in any Respect, it has not been willfully, and I propose them with great Submission to better Judges, and your self in particular. Upon the whole, I never yet saw an Arabic Book of equal Bulk, either printed or in Mss. wherein so few Faults, and of so little Consequence are to be found Nay, few New Testaments printed in English are so correct; for which Reason I cannot think it will be worth while to be at any considerable Expence to correct there Copies, And I imagine it will be a very large Expence to correct so great a Number as 20.000. Galat. 3. 10. indeed ought to be amended, and therefore the Society have given Orders for the correcting that Omission in all the Copies here.

Tho' I was not concern'd in correcting the Psalter, yet I have at the Society's Desire examin'd the List of Errata in that Impression likewise, and the like Observations I have made on there of the New Testament may, I think, be very justly made on them. But not to take up more of your time than is absolutely necessary, I shall only give you a List of such of them as I take to be Faults, distinguish'd also into material and immaterial.

Makrial Faults.

وبالكلية الهية	pag 1. l. 9.
الفقراء	psal. 9:19.
جيل وجيل	--- 92:11.
شي يسير ر صغير	--- 36:16.
The List is here	يسير
واذبلت	---38:11.
غطانا ظلال ر	---49:20.
غطوتنا بظلال	How the List
	corrects nothing.
تنقد	---49:3.
الاشبال	---56:5.
رجاي	--- 72:28.
بيدي	--- 77:61.
بالخفاء	--- 80:8.
غضبك عنا	--- 84:5.
اغبياء	--- 93:8.
من حديد	--- 149:8.
حلقي	--- 118:103.
الاه اخر	pag. 227. l. 7.

Besides wch there are several faults overlooked, of at least equal importance; for instance in the first Psalm only,

v. 3. المياة for المياه
4. تذريه for تذريه

&c

Faults of Small consequence.

والروح	pag. 1 : l. 1.
الترتيب	---: l. 12.
وكختصر	--- l. 17.
فالان	psal. 2:10
المسكونة ر بالاستقامة	--- 9:9.
واحيتني	--- 16:4.
والعلى	--- 17:14.
انظر	--- 24:18.
مقاومة	--- 90:21
How the List amends nothing.	
بليت	--- 91:3.
تقلقيني	--- 41:12.
مبغضونا	---43:11
How the list amends nothing.	
الله الاهك	---44:8.
باذيال	----—:14.
لالهنا	---46:7.
اسرايل	---52:7
كلامه	---54:13.
عضدتني	---62:9.
المهي	---64:8.
يحفظوا	psal. 88:32.
عجيبة	---92:4.
عبيده وبني يعقوب	---104:6
سجدوا للنحوت	---105:18
عجايبه	---106:21.
فقير	---108:22
والحادي	---111:7.
اقترب	---118:50
البحر	---135:13.
الحزن	---137:7.
ليعقوب	---147:8

Since I wrote the above, the Society have received from you another Copy of the abovementioned List of Errata in the New Testament with some Additions viz.t

Acts 6..18. 12..25. } خدمة for خدمة, which I cannot allow to be a Fault.

3..6. فقال for ففال, which is certainly a Fault, tho' of small Moment.

—..18 المسيح ..... } neither of these appear amiss in my Copy.

15..7. تعلمون ان .....

I beg leave to assure you that I am with great Esteem and Respect

Sir,

Your most humble and obedient Servant

Geo: Sale.

Inner Temple London
August 25.th 1729.

P.S. Mr. Bedford and Mr. Badichi to whom I communicated the above-written Obervations, on perusing them, have given me Leave to acquaint you, that they both agree with my Sentiments therein; and present their humble Service to you.

To Mr. Rowland Sherman
Merchant at Aleppo in Syria.

Bartlet's Buildings
29. Sep.r 1729.

By the Hallifax Capt.n Butler, & Duplicate by the Great Corilia Capt.n Pearch with Juvoiros by each.

Worthy Sir,

I receivd both your Letters of the 24.th of Febry 1728-9. 23.d of March and 8.th of May last by several Conveyances, and having communicated them to the Society shall thank you for them, and for all your Pains in distributing the Arabick New Testaments &c.a recommended to your Care. As to what concerns the Errata, I beg Leave to refer you to Mr. Sales Letter, herewith sent in one of the Ships bound to Scandaroon. The Negative Particle which was omitted Gal. III. Verse 10.th was so material a Fault, that the Society have caus'd the Printer to correct all the Copies now sent to you, and they intend all the Copies that shall be hereafter sent, shall be corrected in the same manner.

I have also put the Society in mind of what you recommended in your Letters of the 20.th and 29.th of April, and 23.d of Novemb.r 1725. and 17.th of April 1727. concerning a Folio Edition of the Psalter with the Annotations &c. wherein they should have been very glad to have comply'd with your Desire; But it being the Opinion of his Grace of Canterbury, and other learned Members of the Society, that they should content themselves with sending only the pure Text of the Holy Scriptures, to prevent all Cavils from our vigilant Enemies the Papists: and the Society having been advised, while the Press was sett to print 10. Thousand Copies of the New

New Testament, That large Impression has so exhausted the Fund for this Service, that they are not in a Condition to undertake any new Impression, nor can they presently call upon their Members, to renew their Solicitations for further Benefactions to a Design wherein they have so lately exerted themselves to the utmost of their Power. But as to a Sett of the Antient Fathers, the Society are very much dispos'd to comply with your Proposal for making such a Present to the Patriarch for the Public Library at Aleppo, as soon as they are in a Condition to do it, after discharging the Expence of the Impression of the New Testament, and when they can meet with a complete Sett of them, which are rarely to be met with all at once.

I have herewith cover'd an Invoice, of what is now sent, and desir'd to pay the Freight there to each Captain as Mr. Eaton should rate it, but they both declin'd receiving it, as a Thing out of Course in their Method of Business, and therefore Mr. Eaton is so kind as to promise to get their Bills of Lading for the 3. Chests sent by the Hallifax to be deliver'd to you for Ten Dollars Freight, and for the 3. Chests and Box sent by the Great Cecilia for Eleven Dollars Freight, which you may please to draw upon the Reverend Mr. Archdeacon Denne our Treasurer for this Service, or me for. In each of these Ships there goes 6. Copies of the New Testament neatly bound for Presents, where you shall think fit to make them.

The Box of 450. Catechetical Instruction &c. is what was intended to be sent last year, if the Ships had not been gone before they could be got ready. The Society are pleas'd to understand they are so acceptable to the Reverend Clergy in your Parts, and have therefore printed 5000. Copies to be sent to you as Occasion offers. You desir'd to know who compos'd this little Tract. The Abridgment of the Hist. of the Bible was some Years since drawn up by the Learned Mr. Osterwald at Neufchatel in Switzerland, and the Catechetical Instruction by a Committee of our Society, and they afterwards submitted it to the approbation of His Grace of Canterbury, who was pleas'd to give several Touches to it, but the whole was translated by Mr. Dalicki the King's Interpreter of the Oriental Languages, and afterward revis'd by Mr. Bedford and Mr. Jule, to whom, the 2 last mention'd Gentlemen, the Society are very much obliged for their great and indefatigable Pains in correcting this and the whole New Testament Gratis.

As to a Concordance, there is neither of these Gent. have Leisure to compose one, nor do they think it can be done to the perfection it ought, till all the other parts of the Bible are printed in Verses as those sent to you; beside the Expence is what the Society are at present in no Condition of sustaining.

May God long continue your Health and Life so much devoted to his Glory, are the Wishes of the Society, as well as,

Sir,

Your most obed. Humble Serv.t

H: N.

The Task of several Students at Cambridge is of late so much turn'd to the Study of Arabick, that the Professor of Arabick there has been obliged to print a New Grammar for that Language.

I having been forgot in packing up the New Testaments, I have herewith sent English Copies of the Abridgment of the Hist. of the Bible and Catechetical Instruction.

N. B. Mr. Sale's Letter was sent by the Hallifax Capt.n Butler.

Invoice of Six Chests and One Box ship'd on Board the undermention'd Ships by Henry Newman, on Account and by Order of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, and consign'd to Mr. Rowland Sherman Merch.t at Aleppo.

London 24th Sept.r 1729.

			Arab.k N. Tst.	Catchet. Instruc.ns
By the Hallifax Capt.n Butler Commander for Scandaroon.	N.o 10. R.S.N.	Cont.a New Testaments in Arabick —	110.	
		Catechetical Instructions in D.o		240.
	11.	Cont.a New Testaments in Arabick — of which 6. neatly bound & gilt — for Presents.	120.	
		Catechetical Instructions in Arabick		80.
	12.	Cont.a New Testaments in Arabick —	120.	
		Catechetical Instructions in D.o		80.
By the Great Cecilia Capt.n Peacock Commander for Scandaroon.	13.	Cont.a New Testaments in Arabick. —	120.	
		Catechetical Instructions in D.o		80.
	14.	Cont.a New Testaments in Arabick of which 6. neatly bound & gilt. — for Presents.	120.	
		Catechetical Instructions in Arabic		80.
	15.	Cont.a New Testaments in Arabick —	122.	
		Catechetical Instructions in D.o		160.
	16. R.S.A.B.C.	Box cont.a Catechetical Instruct.ns D.o		450.
		Total of Arabic New Tstam.t	712.	
		Catechetical Instructions in Arabick		1170.

By Order of the Society Henry. Newman Secry.

To

As you was pleas'd to desire me to communicate my thoughts concerning the necessity and Usefulness of Printing a New Edition of the New Testament in Arabick for the use of the Eastern Churches, and to set down in Writing some of my Reasons upon that head, I have accordingly Endeavour'd to Satisfy You herein to the best of my Power as far as the narrow Limits of a Letter would permit.

There are several Considerations which clearly shew the necessity of such a pious Undertaking; The want of Printing Presses in the Eastern Countries is the reason why Books are both Scarce and very Dear, much beyond what the poor Christians can Afford to purchase them at; They living under the Tyrannical Government of the Turks have much ado to raise wherewith to pay the Tributes & Impositions laid upon them and to supply their most necessary Wants, which is the reason that there are but very few in a Condition to buy themselves Books necessary for their Instruction and Spiritual Improvement: Besides, the few Copies still extant either of the whole New Testament or of part of it, are very hard to be had, and these also at a very dear Rate. The four Evangelists printed in Folio at Rome Anno 1591. with a Latin Translation and Cuts, is the most Beautifull Edition as well as the most Correct, but it's grown so scarce that it sells at a very Exorbitant price —

Another Edition of the whole Bible printed by Order of the Society at

Rome

Rome De propaganda Fide in 3. Vol. Fol. 1671. may be had indeed but it was made from the Vulgar Translation by the Maronites (a Sett of People very rude and uncultivated and for the most part little Vers'd in the true Knowledge of the Arabick Tongue) all the Understanding men among the Eastern Nations have justly rejected it; Besides, this Edition is distributed only among those who have Embrac'd the Romish Religion and is for that purpose sent by the College at Rome to their Missionaries in the Levant. The Edition of Erpenius which takes in the whole New Testament is not only very Faulty, But for what has hitherto appear'd, that Translation was not made from an Antient Greek Copy, And as very few of these were at first printed they are now also become very scarce. The beautifull Edition of London Extant in the Polyglott Bible cannot be of common use by reason of it's Bulk & it's extraordinary Price.

Several parts of the New Testament have been printed Separately in different Countries of Europe, but they can be of no great use to the Eastern Nations, because, besides their being incompleat, very few Copies have reach'd them except a small Number that are in the hands of the Romish Missionaries.

If we therefore consider that the Constitution of the Country Allows of no Printing; and that the necessitous and Oppressed Condition of the Christians cannot permit them to Purchase any Copies, and besides this the Scarcity and Dearness of these Editions now Extant together with the Quality of them, Namely the Faultiness of some, and the Inconvenience & Bulkiness of others, and the little Succes the two Editions of Rome have had, the first tho very beautifull did not please upon the Account of the Cutts and Images in them, for

which,

which the Eastern Nations have a Detestation [illegible] (especially when Stampt on Paper), and the second by Reason of the bad Language which is even indecent in some places, besides the badness of the Impressions), I say if all this be duely consider'd, I think it sufficiently demonstrates the necessity of an Edition more exact and Faithfull, and of a more convenient form & Size than has hitherto appeared.

The usefulness and necessity of so Laudable a design will further appear if we reflect upon the Language in which the Edition is propos'd to be Published, upon the extent of the Country in which it is spoke and lastly upon the many Nations and multitudes of people who may by this means have the Opportunity of reading it, and thereby of reaping such great Benefits to their Souls.

I may boldly affirm that of all the Living Languages there is none to be compar'd to the Arabick, in what light soever You will please to consider it. As this is the Language in which the Alcoran is writ, it extends to all those Countries where the Mahometan Religion is professed and Established and even beyond those Countries among many of the Heathens: It is spoke in three parts of the world, and in those places where it is not the Common Language of the Country it is nevertheless taught in the Schools and Studied by men of Letters —

But to fix some Limits that may Answer the Design now in Question which is not intended for Heathens, Turks and Mahometans except in an indirect manner, but chiefly calculated for the good of poor Christians destitute of such necessary helps for the Edification & Salvation of their immortal Souls; I'll but just mention those Countries where the greatest Number of Christians are Settled —

The

This Language has spread it self allover Judea, Palestina, Syria, Mesopotamia, Ægypt, and over a great part of Africa, it is spoke by most of the People of those Countries; The Turkish Language being only us'd in the Courts of Bassa's or in the Towns where Turkish Governours reside, and also by a few Strangers. The great Number of Nations and Communities of Christians to whom such an Edition may be usefull is not less — considerable. The Arabians of the Greek Church who generally go under the Name of the Melchites are far Superiour in Number to all the rest, and ought principally to be consider'd in such a truly Religious Undertaking, The Syrians comprehending the Eutychians, or Monophysites, and Maronites, the Nestorians the Armenians, the Copts, and even a small Remnant of the Antient Nazarens, all these Nations and Sects tho' they Celebrate their Church Liturgy in the Language Antiently us'd in their respective Churches, Still they all understand, talk, and write Arabick.

You may easily Judge by this Sir, how extreamly usefull another and better Edition of the Arabick New Testament — would be, What happy Effects by the Blessing of God it might produce among these several Sects and Nations, and how — exceeding Welcom it would be to them if Convey'd by proper hands.

I see no Reason we have to doubt of Success, but on the contrary the real good which followed the Publishing of the two Editions (one at London and the other at Hall) of the New Testament in Modern Greek, which was so earnestly desir'd by the Greeks and has been receiv'd by them with so much Joy, is a Strong Inducement to believe that this will be attended with no less happy Effects, and

I am confident that the necessity of a New Edition of the Arabick New Testament is no less pressing now, than that of the Vulgar Greek formerly was.

I should now go on to give You my Thoughts as to the Execution of this Design, how it might be Order'd in a manner that may Answer the Pious Intention of those who out of a Christian Zeal would be willing to undertake and encourage this Work and Effectually promote the Spiritual Good of all those for whom it is intended; And likewise as to the Choice of the Copy from which a New Impression is to be made, the Characters and Letters and Form of the Volume, and other particulars relating to the Accomplishment of this great and good Work, but I thought it wou'd be time enough to Enter in a farther Detail of these particulars, when You shall have Acquainted me that it has pleased God to dispose some Gentlemen to come to a Resolution in favour of so good an Undertaking.

I will content my self for the present with giving You in a few words my Thoughts as to the manner of securely dispersing the Copys among so many Nations, which I think was one of the Difficulties You Started to me. The best Method in my humble Opinion would be, when the Edition is perfect, to keep such a Number of Copies in London as shall be thought fit, and send the rest Bound with a Recommendation from the Turkey Company here to the English Consul at Aleppo (which of all Cities is the best Situated for this purpose) who with the Assistance of the Chaplain might easily Order and Regulate the dispersing of them; The Chaplain who undoubtedly has Leisure enough will readily charge himself with such a Commission, so Suitable to his own Character and so Charitable, so Honourable and Glorious to the English Nation; he will be the more disposd to undertake this Work, for as I am very willing

remember

remember him to have said, he was resolv'd to make himself Master of the Arabick, by which means he will have the Opportunity of Conversing and Corresponding with several Persons of Different Quality. To this purpose Instructions may be sent him from hence to make himself known to the three Patriarchs of Jerusalem, Antioch, and Alexandria, and to furnish them with a sufficient Number of Copies Answerable to the Extent of their Dioceses, As likewise to the Arch Bishop of Aleppo, and to communicate to those Prelates the Intentions of the Benefactors in England, & recommend to them the distributing of the said Copies to such persons and in such manner as shall best Answer the Design of this Charity by their Bishops Priests and Ecclesiasticks under them; he must not Omit Informing himself about the Patriarch of the Nestorians who resides at Nineve, and the Patriarch of the Copts at Grand Cairo, and to furnish them with a Sufficient Number of Copies, the rest will be left to the prudent Managers of the in England, especially to consider how far they shall think it proper to desire the Chaplain either to Allow or refuse Copies to those of the Romish Perswasion, such as the present Patriarch of Nineve, and the Patriarch of the Maronites on Mount Libanus who is intirely Subject to the Pope of Rome, and his whole Dioceſs is of the Romish Religion the other change and are often Succeeded by others of a different Perswasion.

Thus, Sir, You see this great difficulty is remov'd, and I wish there may not be found any greater, for then I might have reason to Conceive hopes that this good Design may be once Accomplished.

My

(718)

My hearty Prayers are that God would be pleased to incline the Rich and Charitable Persons of this Kingdom to take such Resolutions in this Important Affair as may the most effectually promote His Honour and Glory, and the good and Welfare of our Fellow Christians. I remain

S.r

Your most humble Servant

Salomon Negri

To Mr Newman

Good S.r

I cannot but think it would be a very good work, and such as might have very happy Effects, if such an Edition as is propos'd of the Arabick New Testament could be procured, and a Sufficient Number of Copies sent to, and dispersed over, the Many Countries in which that Language is so well understood.

But methinks it is an Essential defect in the proposal, not to mention the Vol. in which such an Edition should be printed, and some Estimate made of the Charge of it.

When the Press is going, a thousand Copies more or less, is but little more Expence than what the Paper amounts to, I heartily wish well to the Attempt, and am,

Good S.r,

Your very Loving Friend

W. Cant

Lambeth,
19. April 1720.

(8.)

To John Chamberlayne Esq.

Dear Sir

Sr Robert Sutton Recd Your Letter with the Inclosed — relating to the Arabick Testament, which he has Ordered me to tell You He looks upon as a thing which may do a great deal of good in the Eastern Countries. He says the Turks will not hinder it's Dispersion, but he cannot Answer for the Patriarchs, who (some of them at least) forbid the Use of the Vulgar Greek Testament, of which many Copies remain in the Turky — Company's Library Undispers'd.

My Lord Arch Bp has I presume spoke to Mr Newman in — Relation to the French Common Prayer Books. I would have waited on the Society at their Meeting to morrow, but am Oblig'd to be out of Town. I beg You will please to present my humble Respects and the best Service in the Power of

Sir

Canon Street
27th April 1720.

Your most Faithfull humble
Servant
Wm Ayerst.

To Mr Newman.

Sr

Upon a hasty perusal of the proposal which You sent to me, and I herewith return to You, I cannot but think that the design is Pious and Laudable and deserves all due Encouragement. I am

Sr

Golden Square Westm.
9. May. 1720.

Your Affectionate
Humble Servt
H. Sarum

(91)

To Mr. Newman.

Sr.

Being confin'd to my bed or Chamber for several weeks, till the day I left the Town for the Country, I was in no Condition to consider the proposals left for me by Mr. Hastings, but delivered them to Mr. Mason a Friend of his in Greek street, to be restored to him. Since my return into the Country, my Fever and Ague is renewed with my pains, and when I shall be fit for any Business or Application of mind, is Submitted to the good pleasure of God. In general one may say, the printing the New Testament in any Living Language much spoken, is for the Service of Christianity. But how far the Mahometans are permitted or may be disposed to read the New Testament were it Offered them in the Arabick Tongue: and how pressing the Occasions are of the Christians for such an Edition, I mean those Christians that dwell in the Countries where Arabick is vulgularly Spoken, and whether they don't use the New Testament in Greek or some other Language that they also understand, must be learnt of Merchants or Travellers who have been in these parts, and who are fittest to be consulted about the necessity and Benefit of such an Undertaking. The only part belonging to the Bps in this Work, is to promote so Pious a proposal as they can, when they are Assured of the Service it may to Religion, and of the feasibleness of distributing the Copies, and having them read afterwards, and to Consult with Skilful persons upon the choice of the Version to be printed. Thus I send you my thoughts as I can collect them in the Interval of a Fit, and with Service to the Gentlemen of the Society remain

Sr

Your Affectionate Servt

E. Cov. & Lichfield

Eccleshall

14th May. 1720.

To Mr. Newman

Sr.

I Recd the enclosed proposal from my Lord Bp of London and am directed by his Lordship to Acquaint you that he is very

well satisfy'd and is ready in Conjunction with his Brethren to ___
Contribute towards so pious and usefull a Design.

I Likewise return You Lord Galloway's Letter after communicating the Contents of it to my Lord and am with great Respect

S.r

Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Tho: Mangey

Westminster
17.th May. 1720.

To M.r Newman.

S.r

When ever you are at Leisure and can give his Grace a more particular account of the design of the Society for Printing the Arabick New-Testament especially in relation to the Character, My Lord would be very glad to see You for to Communicate You His and the Dean of Norwich's Thoughts upon that good and pious Undertaking. I am

S.r

Yours entirely
D.d Wilkins.

Lambethhouse
24.th May. 1720.

It must not be long before You come to Lambeth.

To his Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury.

My Lord.

The Arabick Language is spoken not only in Arabia but also through all Mesopotamia, Erac, Syria, Palestine, and Egypt; and from Egypt on all the Northern Coasts of Africa, as far as Fez, Morocco and the Atlantic Ocean.

In Arabia and all the Northern Coasts of Africa, there are not any Christians, except such Slaves as have been taken Captive

Captive by the Corsairs, to whom an Arabick New Testament can be of no Use, the Arabick not being their Language.

In Erac, Mesopotamia, Syria, Palestine, and Egypt, there are still remaining several Inhabitants of the Christian Religion; divided into the several Sects of Nestorians, Eutychians, Monothelites, and Melchites, to whom an Arabick New Testament would be of great use, and it would be a Work of great Charity to furnish them with one; for there being no Printing in those Parts, all the Copies they have there of the Bible are in Manuscript, which being very dear, and private Christians being there under the Oppression of Mahometan Governours very poor, few of them have wherewith to purchase any of those Copies; and therefore most of them are without the Scriptures, and know no farther thereof than what they hear read in their publick Assemblies.

That Arabick Version of the New Testament which is published in the London Polyglott, is the properest for this Purpose; But whether there be a Font of Arabick Letters in England fit for this Work, is more than I know, but I think there is not; and if so there must be a New Font cast, and new Puncheons and Matrices must be made for it, which will much Augment the Charge; but if this Work goes on, and there be a Necessity for such a new Font, Care must be had, that the Pattern be taken from the fairest Characters: For those that use the Arabick Language in the East, are very nice in their Writing; and those Books from our Western Presses, which in their Types come nearest to their fairest Writing, are most acceptable to them: And the Roman Arabick Psalter being on this Account approv'd by them beyond all their Prints, I have therefore herewith sent it to Your Grace, to be used as there shall be Occasion.

26th. May 1720. H. Prideaux.

To —

To Mr. Newman.

Sr

I Receiv'd Yours about the begining of this Month wherein You desir'd to be inform'd whither we had any Types here at Cambridge that were fit to print the New Testament in Arabick, and at what Rate I would undertake to print a Number of them from 4. to 10000.

These are in Answer to it, That the Arabick Types we have here are too Large for your Design; and are not fit, only to print some Folio, and not a Small Book: You could be better informd about this matter at Oxford, where they have various Sorts of Great and Small Arabick Types. As to the Types, with which the Biblia Polyglotta was printed, are in London, I beleive. You may have information about them of Mr. Andrews a Letter Founder, near the Charter house, in a Court, which goes out of the Charterhouse Yard into Long Lane, London. This is all the Accot I am capable of giving you of the Affairs you desired; and would have done it sooner, but that I have been full of Busines's of my own. I am

Sr

Your unknown most humble Servant

Corn: Crownfield

Cambride
12. May. 1720.

P.S. Sr Collatch, who came to Cambridge but yesterday sent me a Letter of Yours about this Affair.

To Mr. Newman.

Sr

You have here enclos'd both the Letters of that worthy and pious Person, who excited the society to that good work; and also Mr. Chisul's Letter to me, shewing his Thoughts and Judgment on the same Subject, with his good Advile therein. I send both to you upon the very next penny post after I Receiv'd them. I am

Sr your very humble Servant

Joh. Strype.

Low Leyton
22. May. 1720.

To the Rev.d Mr. Strype.

Reverend Sr.

In Answer to the Enquiry you are pleas'd to make concern-ing the Subject of Mr. Negri's Letter; my Opinion as well as my Wishes is entirely the same as his. He has very truely seth forth the Number of Oriental Christians using the Arabick Tongue, their unhappy Darkness for want of Copies of the New Testament, and that absolute Inability they are under either to print themselves, or to purchase an Impression else where. It would therefore be an Act highly worthy the Care and Piety of the Corporation; if, where the Alcoran reigns in Arabick, the Gospel, by their Charity, might be Spread in the same Language.

The Method of Dispersing it from Aleppo is very rightly projected by Mr. Negri. And as to the manner of Impression here; I presume to Suggest no further, than that it be done from the Version of the English Polyglott; upon good Paper; with exact Correction of the Press; and without any manner of Preface or Recommendation. Which last Circumstance is necessary for it's being receiv'd readily by the Christians of the East, and for taking off all opposition even from the Missionaries of the Church of Rome.

Could the design be enlarg'd to make an Edition of 4 Columes containing the Original Greek, the Greek Vulgar, the Arabick Version and it's Translation into Latin, it would be a Book fit for all the Libraries in Europe; and would most probably be Subscrib'd to, or bought up in such a Quantity, that one half of the Copies might pay the Charge of the Impression: and the rest be entirely gain'd for this most Christian Design. But I dar not enlarge beyond the Question you propose, and therefore Submitting all to the Pious and Learned Members of the Society, I remain,

Reverend Sr.

Your affectionate Brother & humble Servant

Edm.d Chishull.

Walthamstowe
28.th May. 1720.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir.

I return the papers committed by the Gentlemen of the Committee to my Perusal. As I am sensible of my Insufficiency in things of this Nature, so I know this draught must be done over and over again in Order to fit it for the Press. I have transcribd the whole and made up and down some Alterations which I leave to your Consideration. I hear some Gentlemen Advise to send to Aleppo for the most approvd Copy of the New Testament in Arabick; and I think this would be the likeliest way to Obviate all manner of Exceptions that might be Started against any other Impression done after the Polyglott Bible or Erpenius his Copy. If the Gentlemen should think fit to go on with the Publication of the Proposal, I do not Question but some Money might be raisd towards Providing a Font of Letters and preparing the way for the whole design, when ever the Copy from the Levant is safely come to our hands. Thus committing our Concerns to the Divine Providence I rest in Sincerity

Sir

Your humble Servant

A. Wm. Bochm.

Strand
4th July. 1720.

To Mr. Newman.

Sr.

Since I left London I have been absent a Month from Oxford wither I did not return till the end of the last Week, and on my Arrival I found my self Honourd with your Letter of the 3d Instant, together with a Proposal about publishing a Translation of the New Testam.t in Arabick, of which you are pleasd to inform me that the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge desire my Opinion. Now after I have made the Society my Publick Acknowledgments for the great

Honour

Honour they do me in requiring my poor Opinion in an Affair of so great Importance. I am to lament my unhappiness that I am not able to give them such Satisfaction in this matter as I wish and they might justly expect; for tho' I have resided many Years in Turky, yet I spent but a quarter of the time in Aleppo having Liv'd the other part in Smyrna where the Arabick Tongue is little known or regarded; and tho' I removed to Aleppo with an Intention to make my self Master of the Arabick, as Mr. Negri observes, (tho' whether he means me or not I am uncertain, not remembring that I had ever the Honour of knowing any person of that Name in Turky) yet the care of my health and some other weighty Considerations bringing me back to England much sooner than I at first proposed to my self, I am so far from being Master of the Arabick that I had time only to lay the Rudiments of that Language, proposing however to resume those Studies and perfect them too when it shall please GOD to give me time and opportunity of doing it. But notwithstanding I am not able to give any Assistance in my own person towards accomplishing so good a Work, yet from the Experience I have had of Turky, I think my self not wholly incapable of offering my Opinion concerning the Usefullness of it, and as to what regards the Practicableness of such an Undertaking which was the 2d. head of Enquiry you mention'd to me, I am exceeding glad that I have this Opportunity of offering something to the Society which I hope will be acceptable to them.

The usefullness of such a Work will be very evident from considering the great Numbers of Christians who use this Language, and the very mean Translation which is at present in their hands, all which is very fully set out in Mr. Negri's Proposal that I have nothing to Add to it unless by way of corroborating his Evidence to observe to You That as all the Natives of the Turkish Empire south of Mt. Amanus, of what soever Religion or Rite they are, Speak the Arabick as their Mother Tongue; so this Language is become so Universal that even the Greek Clergy themselves (as I know by Experience in Syria & Palestine) some of the Bishops excepted who were born & Educated on the Coast of Asia Minor & in Europe understand no other Language; having quite lost the Greek and reading the Scripture and the Offices of the Church in the Arabick. And the Faults and Imperfections of the

Present Arabick Translation, I have heard so often lamented by a person excellently skilled in this Tongue, and have read such Accounts of it in Authors - that I am perfectly perswaded if any one would profitably read the Holy Scriptures in Arabick, A Translation ought either to be made Anew, or the Old one to be so revised and corrected as to make it, in a manner, new. These things therefore being Evident, I think I need not trouble you any more about the Usefullness of the Work. I come therefore to the Practicableness of it.

And here it does not appear to me what is directly aim'd at in the Proposal whither Translating the New Testament entirely Anew, or Correcting the Old Translation. To make an entire new Translation seems to me not Advise-able on many Accounts, for, in the first place, it is indeed so very arduous an Undertaking that I doubt whither in the present Circumstances of the World, there can many people be found who are able to do it; and even - if it were done, I much question whither the Christians for whose use it - should be compos'd could be perswaded to part with their old Translation, which they have been us'd to, for one which they never heard of before. But if the old Translation were diligently revis'd, if the Errors were corrected, if the Deficiences were supply'd, and the whole well Adjusted with the best Greek Copies, this would perfectly answer the Design, and might meet with no Opposition in the Reception: And such a Translation as this I now come to offer to the Society.

I have the Honour of a Friendship with an English Merchant of Aleppo, who having resided in the place these 30 years has acquired a - perfect Knowledge of the Arabick Tongue which he speaks and Writes with great Elegance and Purity: This worthy Gentleman having observ'd the many Faults I above mentioned in the present Arabick Translation of the New Testament, did, some years since, set himself about revising it; and comparing the Edition published by Erpenius with that which is in the English Polyglott, and accurately correcting both by the Original - Greek Text; and taking the Assistance of all the Commentators on the New Testament which were to be met with in that Country, has, out of all of them, perfected such a Translation of the New Testament as, I believe has never yet been seen in Arabick. Nor has this Learned Person's Zeal spent itself

in

in this one Work; he has likewise employ'd the same diligence in revising the Book of Psalms, the Translation of which he has fully corrected. And whereas there was handed about a very corrupt Translation of S.t Chrysostom's Homilies, his Charity likewise mov'd him to employ his Care about them, and, by the Assistance of the Eton Edition by S.r H: Savil, he has restor'd and perfected all the Homilies on S.t Matthew's Gospel. And lastly, that he might make the reading the Scripture as profitable as possible, he has himself compos'd in Arabick an Index to the whole New Testament, containing an Explanation of the Rites and Customs and Opinions, together with as much of the History & Geography of the times and places, as was necessary for understanding the Facts mention'd in it. All these were compleated and fairly transcrib'd before I left Aleppo. And if this Account which I have given of my Friend's truely Christian Labours shall prove acceptable I dare undertake for him that he will gladly communicate all or any of them to the Society to be by them committed to the Press. When I shall receive the Society's Commands for this purpose I will write to Aleppo and doubt not by the first Ships which shall come thence, to present them with the Works I have mention'd. Mr. Negri having offer'd his Opinion about the Method of safely distributing the Copies of the Translation when it shall be finish'd and published, I think my self obliged to say something likewise to the Society on this Head. I must therefore observe that the great Obstacle to this whole Work will arise from the Clergy who, tho' they do not prohibit their people the reading the Holy Scripture, yet certainly are not very desirous they should be overlearned. Who ever therefore can propose a Method of reconciling the Clergy to this Undertaking, will, in my Opinion, have overcome the greatest if not the only difficulty (for as for distributing the Copies it's a thing very easy to be done, by means of the many English Settlements in those parts).

Now in Order to this Deliberation it will be necessary to distribute the Christians into their several Nations, all which I think may be comprehended under the Greeks, the Syrians, and the Maronites, and other of several Nations reconcil'd to the Church of Rome: for as for the Armenians there will be no need of mentioning them, they having already an excel-

Fran-

Translation of the Holy Scripture in their own Language, which they constantly read in their Churches and all of them very well understand it. The Greeks are far the more numerous Body, and best deserving the Consideration of the Society, they reckon no less than 15000. of this Communion at Aleppo, and in every other Considerable City of Syria their Numbers are proportionable. All these are Subject to the Patriarchate of Antioch; I say Patriarchate because I don't know whither I can so properly say Patriarch, there being at present and have been for some years past two of them; one residing in Aleppo and the other in Damascus. For all Church preferments being in that Country Venal a certain Ecclesiastic, some years ago, purchas'd the Patriarchate of the G. Vizir, over the head of the present Possessor, but he having very justly, acquired a wonderfull Reverence and Love among his people, they could by no means be perswaded to part with him; the matter therefore was so compromis'd between them that the old Patriarch should remain at Aleppo & the other fix his Seat at Damascus. I have the Honour to be well known to the Patriarch of Aleppo who is a person of sincere Piety, great Wisdom, & wonderfull Humanity, and who has moreover this rare Felicity, that every body believes him to be such as I have describ'd him, insomuch that not only his own people consider him with all the Love & Veneration they ow a Parent, but even the Christians of other Communities have recourse to him as an Arbitrator & Judge in their Differences, and his Authority is allways submitted to. I have taken the Liberty of being thus particular concerning this Patriarch because if he could be induc'd to favour this Undertaking, it would be the best means I can think of to gain it not only a Favourable Reception but even Credit among all others of the Greek Communion: And there is a great reason to expect this from him, because I know that the Translation of the New Testament & the other Works I have before mention'd were conceiv'd and brought up under his Inspection and Approbation; my Friend whom I have above mention'd, having a particular Friendship with him and having refer'd himself to his Direction and Advice throughout the whole Works. In a word, I believe this Patriarch would favour the Publication of this Translation, but being a very cautious Man, of great Experience in the Affairs of the World, and knowing perfectly well what sorts of people he has to deal with, I can't be over confident that he will give any Publick Sanction to this Work; but if he can be prevail'd on to do it, his Authority is too great for any other Bishop in these parts of the Greek Church to undertake

to

to oppose him. I am well perswaded his Countenance would make the Work currant: and I can't think of any other so likely means of attaining the end aimed at: and therefore if the Society shall think fit to accept of the Proposal I make them I could wish it might speedily be put in Execution during the Life of this Patriarch who is a man well advanced in Years; for after his Death God knows what sort of Man may succeed him; and the Patriarch of Antioch whither good or bad will allways have Authority enough to suppress any Work of this kind which he does not like. If ever therefore this Translation should be published, I would, above all things, recommend it to the Society that their first and principal Care should be to get it some way or other, introduc'd by the Clergy, without whose Concurrence, I dare be confident, all attempts of this kind will have no Effect. And that it may not be thought that I write so peremptorily through any particular Conceit or Zeal for my own Method I will, in few words, let you know the Grounds whereon I found my Opinion The 1st. of which is, The Reverence which is paid to the Clergy all the East over, which is so great that it is at first surprizing to an English Man who has seen so few Examples of it in his own Country. The Popish Clergy with all their Inquisitions and Torments and Executions have only made the World hate them, and thô no body contradicts them, yet the only reason is that they dare not do it, whereas in the East, Love, and Reverence, and Submission is paid to the Clergy from internal Motives and no body disputes with them because every body is perswaded they have no design to deceive. Their Bishops are their Judges, their Words are reckon'd, in a Degree, sacred, and it is held a sort of Impiety to go contrary to their Directions: Insomuch that should a Patriarch publish an Anathema against any Book it must inevitably be blasted, and the people would be so far from reading it that it would be difficult to perswade them so much as to see or touch it. Another reason on which I ground my Judgment is drawn from the Experience I have had in a parallel Case. The Translation of the New Testament into the Vulgar Greek was publish'd in London and sent into Turky with the like pious Design of the present Proposal, But the due Preparation which I have mention'd, not having been made; the Event was that when it Arriv'd there the reading it was prohibited: nay I have been Credibly inform'd that some of the Bishops burnt as many Copies of it as they could meet with, upon Pretence of the Errors in

the

the Translation: and thô the Bishops whom I have discours'd about this Affair disown'd the burning the Book, yet they stood to the Suppressing it, affirming it to be an unpardonable Presumption to go about to obtrude upon a Church a Translation of the Scripture made by a private hand without the Knowledge and Consent of the Bishops. I don't indeed know that any Anathema was published against those who should read this Translation, but the Discouragment & Prohibition this Book lay under was so great, that thô it was well known I had many Copies of it by me, I was scarce able to dispose of two or three of them all the while I liv'd in Smyrna, and yet I omitted no Opportunity of distributing them as often as I handsomely could do it. There does not at present Occur to me any thing more to be said concerning the Greeks

The next Nation which I mention'd was the Syrians. These are not near so Numerous in Aleppo as the former; thô their Nation is very considerable farther Eastward and inhabits a great part of M: TAURUS, They are under two Patriarchs the one residing at Mosul (which is the Antient Ninive) and the other at a Convent, the Name of which (not having my Papers by me) I do not at present remember. Every body knows that they have an Antient Translation in their own Language which they very much Esteem, and they are so Fond of their own Tongue, that thô it be now a dead Language and understood by none but people of Learning amongst them, yet they use the Syrian Characters in writing Arabick: A Translation however into this latter Tongue might be of use among the Common People, and it would at this time be the more Seasonable because there is at present a great Faction among them for the Roman Church, and it might be hop'd that the reading the Scriptures might restrain those who are not already debauch'd. I have Seen & Conferd with the Patriarch of Mosul but no good is to be expected from him, for he is a Man who does not greatly trouble himself about Books. I was well Acquainted with the Syrian Bishop of Aleppo who is a very polite Man but much leaning to the Popish side; and a Priest of the same Nation whom I very well know was ordain'd in Rome: but they have very low Opinions about the Pope's Infallibility, meaning no more by Acknowledging his Supremacy, than a priority of Dignity and Precedence without any Authority over other Patriarchs and Bishops. These are all the Clergy of that Nation with whom I had ever any Conference so that I do not know the Inclinations of the true Genuine Syrians towards such an Undertaking; but as the Greek Church is really the Mother

of

of the whole Eastern Church of what ever Denomination; so I believe all parts of it would still be ready enough to follow Her examp And if we could perswade the Greeks to receive our Translation I Suppo the other Eastern Christians would make no great Difficulty about it

The last people I mention'd in my Division, were the Maronites and these others of Several Nations united to the Church of Rome. The Maronites proper Country is M: Libanus and that long Tract of Mountai on the Coast of Syria from M: Casius down to Palestine. They are likewise in great Numbers in Aleppo, in Cyprus, and most of the trading Cities of Syria. They are all Subject to the Pope, and themselves say they have ever been so: they have at Rome a Seminary for educating their Clergy where they are maintain'd at the Pope's Expence and suck in very lofty Notions of the Papal Authority, and some of them whom I very well know are exceeding Zealous. What is to be done for these people it is not easy to say. I think there is no more to be hop'd for from the Maronites than from any other Popish Nation. As for those others which from several Communions have been drawn to the Latins I have much the same Opinion concerning them: but it may be hop'd that when a Translation of the Scriptures into their own Language shall be put into their hands it will prevent others from being Seduc'd hereafter. But, as it is to be reckoned upon that the whole Body of the Roman Clergy in those parts will set themselves with all their Might against this Undertakin so perhaps the Society may expect that I should propose to them some means whereby to Surmount this great Difficulty; but I am in doubt whither the true and proper means may lie in the power of the Society; for the Missions are very numerous being establish'd in allmost every great City where there are any Christians (for it is to be observ'd that notwithstanding the Pompous Title de Propaganda Fide the whole Design is to pervert the Eastern Christians to the Roman Church, no one Missioner that I have ever heard of having ever dar'd so much as to open his Mouth to any Mahometan about matters of Religion) the Missioners are bold and active and put in Practice all sorts of Arts and are well supported by a Secular Inter (by the French Embassadour and Consuls, the first Article of whose Instru -tions is to take Care of the Missions) and by large Contributions from all the Popish Countrys of Europe. So that there is need of some more effectual Method than Translating the New Testament to oppose the

power

Power and Machinations: but what that Method is I will not presume to — mention least I should be thought to propose Visionary and Romantic Schemes: I will leave it to the Reflection of the Society to determine what is necessary to be done when ever this Affair shall be set about in earnest, rather than offer any thing of my own Judgment.

But whereas there was formerly a Noble Project set on Foot in England, and, in part, executed of Bringing some of the Grecian Youth hither to be instructed and well grounded in Religion and then sent back again for the Information of their own Country-Men and the Event of this Mission having in great part fall'n under my Observation; it may perhaps not be improper to offer something to the Society concerning it that, if ever the Design should be resumed; those Mistakes may be avoided which made the Former Project abortive. I take it for granted that the Society well remembers the Intent and Progress of the Undertaking and I will not trouble them with the Melancholy Account of what became of those unhappy Youths that were sent over hither; it will be sufficient if I lay before the Society, with great Submission my Opinion how such a — Design should be executed. In the first place therefore great Care should be had in the Choise of the Youths, that those only should be taken who are not only of a hopefull Genius, but whose Parents likewise are Persons of good Reputation and Condition: 2.dly great Care should be taken of the Morals of of the Youth while they are here, that they contract no Habits of Lazineſs or Debauchery. 3.dly that together with the learned Languages they be taught Physick or Chirurgery or some other useſull reputable Art by which they may be able to get their Bread when they return into their own Country, and I have particularly mention'd Physick and Chirurgery because these are of great Esteem in Turky and give those who understand them great Reputation, and access to the best Company; and if a Person so quallify'd should get into the — Service of the Vizier or any great Bassa the influence he would have and the Good he might do is not easy to be describ'd. I will only add that the want of observing these Rules not only made the Design of no Effect, but likewise ruin'd the Unfortunate Young Men to whose Conduct the Succeſs of it was — committed.

Thus Sir; I have given You my rude Thoughts concerning the Affair you were pleas'd to refer to me, and if I have here & there digreſs'd from what was —

Strictly

Strictly the Subject of Your Enquiry, I thought both that the Affinity of the Matter would excuse me, and that they were Matters not Unworthy the Knowledge and Consideration of the Society. You will please to lay before them what I have writt, and if they shall think my Proposals worth their Regard they will please to give me what Directions they think proper and in this and all other Occasions they will find in me all possible readiness to give them Satisfaction, as far as I am able; and to Cooperate with them, as far as my poor Endeavours Signify any thing in their Pious and truly Christian Endeavours on which I beseech God to grant a Blessing. I am

S.r The Society's & Your
most Obedient
Faithfull Serv.t
Sam: Lisle.

Wadham College
26.th May. 1720.

To Mr Newman.

Hon.red S.r

I am now to return You my humble Thanks for the kind Favour of the 6.th instant, and to make all due Acknowledgments to the Society for the Honour they do me in approving what I troubled them with concerning an Edition of the New Testament in Arabic. Their Commands shall be instantly complyd with, and by the first Opportunity I will write to my Friend (Mr Sherman) at Aleppo Advertising him of the Society's Request; And I make no Question but he will very gladly transmit his Version of the New Testament and Psalms to be disposd of according to their discretion. But whether there will be time enough to get them Fairly transcribd so as to send Copies of them over, I can't be certain; for the Writing them out will be a Work of time, neither is it easy to gett an Amanuensis who will work with so much Diligence and Application as were to be wishd: And tho' I intend my Letter shall go this Week, or the next at

at farthest, by way of Marseilles (which I take to be the best & quickest Conveyance) yet I shall think it happy if it reaches Aleppo before the end of September; and the Ships which will go hence this Year for Turky, by which our Books must come over, will, I suppose be departing from Scanderone about February at farthest. So that it must of necessity be referr'd to my Friend's discretion & the Circumstance of time, whether he will send over the Copies or the Originals.

As for what You mention concerning an Application from the Society to the Patriarch at Aleppo, before I speak one Word about it, I must entreat You to consider what I shall say only as my own private Opinion, and to judge of it only as the Strength of the Reasons I shall give, support it: It is therefore my Opinion that this matter be conducted with as much Quiet and Reserve as may be, and that all Pomp and Ostentation be avoided. For if this should come to be apprehended as an Assistance to the Poor Greek Church; or an Endeavour to inform and enlighten Them; I know so much the Temper of that Nation as to dare foretell that they will despise the good Office, and reject every thing which should seem to tend that way. Whatsoever we may think of the Low and Afflicted State, in which (God knows) they are, they have very Magnificent Notions of themselves, and talk of their Polycarps & Chrysostomes with as good an Air, as if -- they Inherited their Learning & Virtues, as well as their Sees; And if Circumstances would permit; the Patriarch of Antioch would soon give the World to understand that he is the Successor of S.t Peter. The Astonishment likewise which the all Affect to express when they speak of the Learning which flourishes in Great Britain, is, in my Apprehension, a sufficient Indication that they think they ought not to be taught by us, and that it is a Disgrace to the people of the East, those Antient Nations of the Earth, to learn any thing from so upstart a ~~Nation~~ Race, as (in reality) they consider us in the Western parts of the World to be. I hope You will not think that I go about to throw invidious Reflections on this People, I am exceeding far from designing to do it: I write only what I am verily perswaded are their Internal Sentiments: No man has a greater Reverence for the Greek Church, or a greater Love for the Nation than my self; yet I think it would be Folly to pretend they have no National Faults among them, and it would be great Dulness of Apprehension not to have seen them after so long Experience as I have had of them. And besides, to be a little more particular; what I

before

before hinted to the Society concerning the cautious Temper of the Patriarch has some Weight with me. To be Addressd to by the Body of a Protestant Church (how well soever the Patriarch might like it in his own heart) will be apt to give jealousies and Suspicions, and will not fail to open the Mouths of all the Popish Missioners against him, and he is too well acquainted with their Arts and Power and Resolution not to be Cautious of provoking them. Upon these Considerations I am of Opinion that it would be best to forbear all Application to the Patriarch, and that when the Book is printed it should be publishd nakedly and simply without any Preface or Introduction: And when I had the Honour lately of waiting on the Arch Bishop of Canterbury, his Grace was so much of this Opinion that he thought the very Name of the place where it is printed ought to be Omitted. And if the Edition be thus executed methinks the most obvious Grounds of Exception will be prevented; for tho' it be easy to find Cavils against a Preface, yet those people must, at first Sight, lye under a great Prejudice, who shall except against a Book which contains in it nothing but the Simple Pure Word of God. I think therefore that it would be best to leave it to my Friend's discretion to talk with the Patriarch on this head as he shall think proper. But if after all, the Society shall be of another Opinion and think it becomes them to make an Address to the Patriarch He understands no other Languages than the Greek and Arabic: but if there be any Difficulty to gett what shall be thought fit to be writ, so properly expressd in Either of these Languages; it may do altogether as well to write in English and I will transmit it to Mr. Sherman who will read it to him in Arabic. I hope the Society and Your self will take in good part what I have the Honour to offer to You, I don't presume to oppose my Sentiments to those of the Society, but think it my Duty to speak my Opinion with plainess and Sincerity. I shall not fail to let Mr. Sherman know the high Opinion the Society entertain of his Labours and Merit. I am with great Truth and Respect

Hon.red Sr.

Wadham College
11th. July. 1720.

You most Obedient
& most Faithfull
humble Servant

Sam: Lisle.

To Mr. Newman

Sr

Being Informd by Mr. Negri that the Society have some Thoughts of reprinting the New Testament in the Arabick Language; and being likewise desir'd by him to give my Sentiments of the Undertaking. Though I have nothing New to offer upon the Subject; yet in Compliance with his Request, I think I may affirm for Truth, that there are great Numbers of Christians dispers'd in the Eastern parts of the Turk's Dominions, viz.ᵗ from Damascus in Syria to Bagh-dad and Balsora at the Mouth of the Euphrates. In all which Countries the Arab. is chiefly spoken and the Mother Tongue. I may likewise observe, that in all those Countries, the Art of Printing is either not known or else not put in Practice; And the Books that they have being all Manuscripts, must consequently be very dear. And therefore the distributing a large Quantity of Testaments in Arabic among those Eastern Christians, who are generally poor, must be a very Signal Benefaction. And as to the Mahometans (thō I can't promise much from them) yet I cannot tell, what Effects the reading of these Books may have upon them. For thō it may not bring them over to profess Christianity (which is always attended with great Danger) yet it may so far enlighten their Understandings, as to give them a truer Notion of God and Religion, and juster Ideas of a future State, of a Judgment to come, of a Heaven and Hell then now they have. And consequently bring the Learned among them, into whose hands these Books may fall, to conceive better Thoughts of Christianity and the Christian Religion then now they do.

But then in Case this Undertaking goes on (I mean the printing the New Testament in Arabic) Great Care must be taken in procuring of good Types. For the Arabic Orthography doth require, that certain Letters meeting in the same Words, should always be joynd together, as

But in printing, each Letter being Seperate and standing by it self, makes printed Books in Arabic, neither so Fair nor so Legible as those in a written hand. And therefore Care should be taken to remidy this Evil,

as—

As much as may be: by having as many of those Letters, which always Joyn, and every where occur in that Language, joyn'd in the Types, as is done in the Arabic Psalms printed at Rome.

This our Printers call Ligatures

And I Judge this a proper Season to set this Work on Foot, while Mr. Negri is yet in England; whose Knowledge in Languages is very well known, specially in the Arabic, which, as a Native of Damascus, is his Mother Tongue; and of which having been Professor of it in Rome and other Places of Note for a great part of his Life, he must be Esteem'd a Compleat Master. And therefore no person that I know of in England, fitter to have the Care of this Work, and to correct the Press, than he.

And I must Confess, that whether this Undertaking goes on or no, a person so Valuable as Mr. Negri, for his great Skill in many the most noted of the Europe Languages, also for his Knowledge in the Oriental Tongues, should in my Opinion be encourag'd to stay in the Nation (as one that may be usefull to the Common Wealth of Learning) by having a handsome Provision made him by the Members of your worthy Society and such others as are Lovers of Learning and Learned Men, either by way of Subscription or in any other Method, that to the Society &c. shall seem good. And to the doing of this, I shall readily contribute my Mite, who am

Sr

London
18th July. 1720.

Your most humble Servant

George Lewis.

To Mr. Newman.

Worthy Mr. Newman

I am very much pleas'd at the Society's Good Design of Printing the New Testament in Arabick for Palestine &c. I am perswaded it may do much Good in those parts, and shall do what I can to forward it, in Our Chapter.

I have had it long in my Thoughts, That if we could have a Zealous Missioner in those parts, especially at Jerusalem it would be great Advantage to the Propagation of Christian Knowledge in those parts, And would be matter very worthy and proper for both the great Societies Considerations. There all Christians of the World meet, & Converse, The Christian Religion began, and should be the Center of it, And whether it should return as the Waters to and from the Sea. That God's Kingdom may come, that His Will may be done in Earth as it is in Heaven. Amen, so be it.

That the Honoble Society for the Propagation of Xtian Knowledge may ever Flourish, are the Ardent Wishes and Prayers of Theirs & Yours

Most humble Servant
Geo: Wheler.

Durham
5th August 1720.

To Mr. Newman.

Sr

I have Receiv'd the Favour of Yours. As to the Paper I sent my Ld Archbp it is wholly in His Grace's Disposal to do with it as he shall think fitt. I shall be glad if it can any way-conduce to the promoting of the design intended. One instance of the Poverty of the Eastern Christians is that the Patriarch of Antioch who formerly Govern'd all the Churches of the East Excepting those of Palestine (who were under the Patriarch of Jerusalem) and liv'd there in great Pomp and Splendor, hath now his Residence at Damascus in so mean a Figure that all his Revenues don't make an hundred pound p Ann of our Money.

I am.
Sr Your humble Servant
H: Prideaux

Norwich
27th August 1720.

To Mr. Newman.

Hon.rd S.r

I should sooner have Acknowledg'd the Receit of Your two last Favours of the 30.th July and the 23.d Ulto. but that I have been Absent from Oxford some little time since I Receiv'd them. My Letter to M.r Sherman was proceeded for Aleppo before I Received Your first, and therefore I shall, according to Your Directions, defer writing till the Departure of the Ships for the Copy of the Arabic New Testament as it is now us'd in the Churches of Syria, but then I will not fail doing it. I heartily wish the Society Good Success in their Design of raising Benefactions towards publishing this Work, and if they think any thing contain'd in the Letter which I had the Honour to write to them can be Usefull to this Purpose, I entirely remit it to them to do with it what they Judge proper: or if there be any thing further wherein the Society shall think fit to command me, You will please to let me know it, and I will endeavour, with my best Abilities, to give them Satisfaction. I propose to be in London the end of this Month, or the begining of October at farthest, and if the Society shall not, before that time, have publish'd what they intend in this matter, I may then have the Honour of discoursing it more fully with You, in the mean time I am, with great Truth and Respect

Hon.d S.r

Your most Obedient
& most Faithfull Serv.t
Sam: Lisle

Wadham College
2.d Septemb.r 1720.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir

I am glad to hear the Society continue in the Resolution of printing the New Testament in Arabick, which, as I had the honour to inform M.r Chamberlayne by His Excellency's Order when in England, S.r Robert Sutton thinks will be of great Use in the Eastern Countries, on Account of the

Extensiveness

Extensiveness of that Language, which Spoke and Understood in the greatest part of the Turkish Dominions, where the Christians are usually very Ignorant and have great Occasion for such means of Instruction. Nor is it the Custom of the Turks to oppose the Dispersion of such Books among the Christians, so that the Society need apprehend no Difficulties from that Quarter.

I have at present nothing else to Add, but my most humble Respects to the Society and the Assurances of being always with great Truth

Sr

Your most humble & most Obed.t
Servant
Wm Ayerst

Paris
25.th Septem.r N. S. 1720.

To Mr. Newman.

Hond.d Sir

As to the Affair of the New Testament in Arabic, I cannot but concurr, in my Sentiments with those Reverend and Worthy Gentlemen, with an Extract of whose Letters You have been pleas'd to furnish me, 'Tis a great generous and truly Christian Design, and worthy of the Honoble Society to undertake. But I cannot be so Sanguine, in my Hopes of Success, and great Advantages that may ensue upon it, as some perhaps are, And that for some Reasons which being not observ'd in any of the Letters, I have seen, I will take the Liberty to suggest. The vast Extent of the Arabic Language taken Notice of by Several of those Gentlemen, is easily allow'd, and the Poverty, Ignorance and utter Impossibility, which the Inhabitants of those vast Territories where it is Spoken, Labour under of providing themselves Books, and other Helps of Knowledge, is both known and felt. The Facility also of dispersing a Number of Books amongst them by the Assistance of the Consul, Minister and Factory of Aleppo, I can easily perswade my self of. Mr. Sherman was my Fellow Traveller when I went out to Aleppo in the Year 1688, and I believe has continu'd there ever since, And the present Minister there, the Revd. Mr. Joseph Soley, I had a particular Acquaintance with here in Worcestershire, before he went abroad, He then Acquainted me with his purpose to endeavour to make

himself

himself Master of the Arabick Tongue. And I dare say for both the Gentlemen, that they would rejoyce to receive the Honoble Society's Commands on such an Occasion. Neither indeed should I be just to the whole Factory of Aleppo, did I not declare that for Eight Years that I had the Honour to serve them, I ever found them most ready to promote to their power any great and Charitable Undertaking that was recommended to them to the Glory of God, the good of Mankind, and the Hon.r of their Country, so that there is no doubt to be made of their Assistance as far as it will go. But there are still one or two things that stick with me, First a great want of Curiosity and Regard, to Knowledge, or rather an Aversion to and Contempt of it, that I observ'd in the People of the Countries, as well Christians as others, while I was among them, So that I can hardly think they would be at the pains to make Use of, or improve by any good Books that were put into their hands. Whether it may proceed from a Poverty & meaness of Spirit which their present outward Circumstances and the Constitution they live under, or some other Cause, I cannot tell. Next the Multitude of Romish Missionaries scatter'd up and down all those Countries of Syria, Palestine, Mesopotamia &c.a Who as they have done heretofore, will certainly use their utmost Endeavours to Obstruct, Frustrate and Disappoint a Design, as in it's Nature so Beneficial, so like to prove so much to the Honour of the English Reformation. For it is not their Business, whatsoever some may think, to propagate the Gospel of Christ, but to extend the Authority of the Pope. And in Order thereto to represent the English as men, that have no Religion, no Faith, no Ministers, no Sacraments, no Charity; even when themselves have been relieved by the Charity of the English. Nor is this spoken out of Prejudice or by way of Conjecture only: but grounded upon my own Experience, and matter of Fact wherein I my self had a Share. Give me Leave to mention one or two particulars. When the Honoble Levant Company had made choise of me to be their Minister at Aleppo, I waited upon the famous Doctor Pocock to beg his Directions, how to Acquitt my self in so Import.t a post; he receiv'd me with that Courtesy and Civility that was Natural to him; and also Acquainted me with a Charitable Work contriv'd and carryed on by himself, and some other great persons, of the like Nature and Tendency with that now under the Consideration of the Honoble Society. Himself translated the Chief parts of the English Liturg.y

Name

Namely the Morning and Evening Prayers, the Order of Administration of the Sacraments, the thirty nine Articles of the Church of England, and the Arguments of the Homilies into the Arabic Language; and had them printed in Oxon in the Year 1674 in a small Octavo; with a purpose to send them into the Eastern Countries, to give them a truer Idea of the Religion of the Church of England, than what they had at that time been acquainted with. And also in some measure to let them into the Knowledge of the principles of the Christian Religion in general. Many of these were sent over to one of my Predecessors, the Reverend Doctor Huntington, afterwards Bishop in Ireland, But he told me he had some of them remaining in his hands and offer'd me a Hundred of them to take out with me to Aleppo and distribute them there as I found occasion, I thankfully embraced the offer and having got them into my hands, I caus'd fifty of them to be handsomely bound in Oxon and the other fifty I took out Sheet, And when I came to my place and had Advis'd with the Consul and Factory about them, I distributed some of them to the Eastern Christians in that City; Some I say of those that were bound, but the others were hardly thought worth acceptance, neither did they seem very desirous of the former. And I had not long been there, but I was inform'd one of the Romish Missionaries (of which we had no less than four Convents in Aleppo, Franciscans, Capuchins, Carmelitans and Jesuits, and they were proportionably thick Spread in all the Cities of any Note in those Countries) that meeting with one of my Books, He said he wonder'd that the English Ministers would trouble themselves to bring any more of such Books into those parts; for his part he had destroy'd abundance of them, and should contrive to do it, as oft as he met with them. This made me not very hasty to put them into any Bodies hands, that I had not some Knowledge of, and I left half of them in the Library belonging to the English Minister there when I return'd to England.

Another thing happen'd much about the same time. I had contracted an Acquaintance and Familiarity with the Guardian of the Capuchins a Reverend Old Man, and who had spent a great many Years in those Eastern Countries at Mouzal, Bagdat, Balsora, Aleppo &c. and in our Conversation he took occasion to acquaint me with his great Zeal in bringing over the Christians of all sorts, wheresoever he had been, to the Catholick Church, meaning the Roman; and to acknowledge the Bishop of Rome for universal Bishop; to that end he had not only reasond with them when amongst them, but had writ a sort of Circular Letter to them in Arabic to keep them in the Unity of the Church, and gard them against Schism, and because there were several things in it, which he thought might do me Service, if I pleas'd to

read —

read it, He would send me a Copy of it. And when I Answer'd I understood nothing in Arabic, He frankly reply'd he would translate it into Latin for me, and Send it me. I thank'd him and promised him to read it, and return him an Answer in a few dayes. But when I came to read it, I was amazed at such a Mass of Stuff which he had raked together, about the Pope's being Successor Of S.t Peter and the necessity of being under him to maintain the Unity of the Catholick Church: and then such a Load of Calumnies thrown upon our English Reformation as nothing could be like it. And this supported with a parcell of Stories pickt I Suppose out of Saund.rs and such other like Authors which these Christians in the East were as capable to enquire into the Truth of, as the Inhabitants in the Moon; But these were told them with all the Gravity and Assurance possible, on purpose doubtless to bring Disgrace upon our Church and Nation, and to frighten those poor Ignorant people from hearkening to any thing relating to Religion, that they might learn from us. I was not long in sending him an Answer, and when I had said what I thought was sufficient for our Vindication from all those Scurilous Reflections he had cast upon us, I prest him with all the Earnestness I could, as the only Reparation, and Satisfaction he was capable of making us, to Translate my Answer into Arabick, and send it to all those places, whither he had sent his own Letter; that they might see how he had abus'd us. But this was too Chequing to him: therefore in a few dayes he brought my Answer again and desir'd his own Letter to be restored to him. But to this I would not consent. I told him he had sent me a Letter and I had return'd him an Answer to it. This Answer he might make what Use he pleas'd of: but his Letter was so matchless a piece of Slander, that I would not part with it, and so he was forc'd to leave it in my hands, and I have it by me to this day. And this broke off all Future Communications betwixt us. These particulars S.r I was willing to

Acquaint you with not to divert the Honoble Society from their Noble Purpose; but to Suggest to them what Opposition they have reason to apprehend from those Missionaries of the Church of Rome, who as they have done heretofore, will doubtless continue to Obstruct every good Purpose that proceeds from Us, that they may still represent us as the Vilest of men. If any thing I have written may be of Service, I wholly Submit it to the Honoble Society to use it as they please. As to the Naming to you Persons in England proper to be consulted with on this Occasion, I can think of none fitter than those Eminent Merchants, easy to be met with on the Turky Walk, wch were at Aleppo with me, such as Mr. Hanger Governour of the Bank of England, Sr. William Jolliffe, Mr. Buckley, Mr. Vernon and probably many more, whose Names do not now so easily offer themselves to my Thoughts. I humbly beg the Honoble Society's acceptance of my Thanks for their former Kindnesses and desire the Continuance of their Favour & Prayers, who am one of their unworthy Members; and Sir most Affectionately

Your most Obligd & humble Serv.

William Hallifax

Old Swinford
1. Octob. 1720.

To Mr. Newman

Sr

I have the Favour of yours dated yesterday. If the Gentlemen think that inserting my Name amongst other Receivers may in any Measure promote Benefactions towards the Impression of the New Testament which is to be wrought off for the use of the poor Christians in the East it will be a particular Satisfaction to me to have my Name inserted. I am

Sir Your most humble Servant

Edward Jenison.

Se'nore
2. Octob. 1720.

To Mr. Newman.

Dear Sir

Yours of the 8th instant came safe to hand. As to the Publishing of my Letter upon the Subject of printing the Bible in Arabick, I shall not be against it, provided I may have a Review of it before it goes to the Press. For what a man writes off hand on any present Occasion, is not always so correct as it ought to be. And often times wants to be revis'd, before it be made Publick.

You may write over so much of my Letter, as you design to Publish, and send it to me to be revis'd, with a Line or two of Your own underneath to direct me (if needfull) in what is to be further done, and I'll take Care to return it by the next post. But if you should be in haste to print the Letter, I desire that Paragraph; which as I remember, is to this or the like effect, may be Alter'd. Viz.t "That from Damascus in Syria "to Baghdad and Bussora at the Mouth of the Euphrates, there are great "Numbers of Christians, whose Native Language is Arabick. which You may alter thus.

"That from Damascus in Syria to the Confines of Persia, there are "great Numbers of Christians, whose Native Language is Arabick. Many "of the Inhabitants of those great Cities, Mosul (of old Nineveh) "Baghdad & Bussora on the Euphrates, professing Christianity and all speaking Arabick. This what I have to offer on this Occasion. I am with respect

&c.

Dolgelley.
27th Septem.r 1720.

Your most humble Servant

George Lewis.

To Mr

(324)

To Mr. Newman

Dear Sr.

The Society may (if it can be thought any ways to conduce to the promoting the good Design aimd at) make use of my Name at the End of the Proposal, for printing the New Testament in Arabick; which with my humble respects to the Gentlemen of the Society and Thanks to you for Your late Visit is all at present from

Sr

Norlands
6th. Octob. 1720

Your Humble Servt.

Thos. Greene

A Letter from the Reverend Mr. Gennadius, Archimandrite (or Abbot), Superior of the Convent of Greeks, at Alexandria in Egypt, and Chaplain to His Czarish Majesty's Resident and Subjects at London. To the Reverend Mr. Boehm a Member of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge.

Sir,

I have been informd by a Friend; That there are Several worthy Persons of Your Acquaintance here in London, who design to print the New Testament and Psalter in Arabick, to be distributed among the Christians who speak that Language in the Levant; as your Friends in Germany have some years since, printed the New Testament in the Ancient and modern Greek, for the Benefit of the Greecians.

I can't express to you the Joy which I felt, when I heard that such a design was begining to be put in Execution:

Jn

In Truth, Sir, it will be a noble Benefaction to all the poor Christians of every Nation, that groans under the Oppression of the Infidel Hagarenes, of which I have been an Eye Witness, having been Educated in Egypt, where I have been about 20. years Superior of the Convent at Alexandria.

I know for certain at Grand Cairo, and in all the Towns which are under the Jurisdiction of the Patriarch of Alexandria, all the Christians born in that Country speak no other Language; and at their Publick Worship, they read the Epistle and Gospel, and other parts of Divine Service in Arabick; and only part of it is said in Greek. They speak Arabick in all the Countries from Egypt through Gaza and Jerusalem to Nablos or Samaria; and in all the Country of Syria, as Damascus, Tripoli, Mount Lebanon, Balbeck, (or the Ancient Heliopolis) Antioch, and all the Country round, till you come to Euphrates, all the Inhabitants of those vast Countries generally speak no other Language than the Arabick.

This makes me believe, that such a present cannot fail of being very acceptable, considering that they have as much need of it, as we had of your Charity of the New Testament in Greek; and we think our selves obliged every time we read it, to pray to God, that the Benefactors, who presented us with that Edition, may be worthy of his Kingdom.

I doubt not but the Arabian Christians will be in the same Disposition when they shall receive such a present, as will occasion to them an inexpressible Joy; since it is not in their Power to be at the Expence of Buying very dear Manuscripts; nor have they the Privilege of the Art of Printing.

These things are all so well known to You, that I need say no more, but only to pray that God Almighty would give those Gentlemen above mentioned the Power to execute what they have purposed for the Glory of our Lord Jesus

Jesus Christ; and that he would render us all worthy of his Kingdom.
Amen.

I am entirely at the Service of Your Reverence,

Gennadius,

Archimandrite of Alexandria, &c.ª

7. Octob. 1720.

Translated from the Greek
by me Bartholomeo Casanno,
Nephew of the said Archimandrite.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir.

It was by the Mistake of the Post you had not an Answer from me long since; I like the Proposal and will endeavour to encourage it, hoping it may prove an Usefull one; altho I am very indifferent whether my Name be us'd or not tho it be with good Company; I could wish and desire that the Decalogue may be printed with the New Testament it will demonstrate to Jews and Mahometans (for in such hands some of them will fall) that all Christians in the Western World have not consented to the Alterations therein made to encourage and support Idolatry. The Modern use in Common prayer Books &c. doth not make him have a whit the better opinion of Pictures who is,

Sr

Your most humble Servt

Wyke
15. Octob. 1720.

Tho: Frekc

To-

(9)

To Mr. Newman.

Dear Sir.

I was in hopes to have been able to have sent You by this post, an exact Account of the Expences, the printing of the Arabick New Testament would amount to; but Mr. Van de Water could not yet get it ready; next Fryday he has promis'd to let me have it, and by that Night's post I shall not fail of sending it you. The enquiry You desir'd me to make about the Types, by which the Polyglott New Testament and Golius's Edition of Erpenius's Grammar was printed, is, it seems of no use, for were they yet extant, they could not serve being already too much wore, and no less than a double set of Types being requisite, for the printing of 8000. Copies. As to an Able Workman, for the casting of the Types, he Assures me he has one, that is very Understanding, and who will certainly be approv'd of by every one, as such. He tells me, that the casting one set of Types as they should be, will take up very near Six Months. By which Means the Society will have so much time to gather in Subscriptions, and be the better able to comply with Mr. Van de Water's Proposal of paying a part of the Money, upon the finishing of the Gospels. This is all I can Inform You of at present, and it being jest time to send the Letters to the Post, I must beg Leave to break off, after I have desir'd you, to present my humble Respects to the Society, and remain

Dear Sir

Utrecht
22. Octob. N. S. 1720.

Your most humble
& most Obedient Servant

Henry Hastings

To Mr. Newman.

Dear Sir

I Receiv'd at last this afternoon the Account and Terms upon which Mr. Van de Water proposes to print, for the Society, The New Testament in Arabic. It is the same to him; and there won't be two pence odds in the Price of each Copy, whether it is printed in a Small Size'd 4to. or a large 8vo. In a Small 4to. if printed with the Text Character, which is the first of the three, in the Specimen I sent You, and somewhat larger than the others, and for that reason perhaps preferable, it will make Seventy Sheets in Small Paper. This he can afford you for twenty Stivers or Dutch pence a Copy. The large Octavo Seiz'd Copy, printed upon large Paper, (which he would recommend for it's convenient Seize before the 4to.) will consist of Forty Sheets only, in the same Letter, and this he can let You have for Nineteen Pence a Copy. But as it may happen that the Types, he designs to cast, do not fall so close as those are from which he has made this Estimate, then it is likely, that every Copy will exceed by a few Sheets, the Number above mention'd; and for every Sheet that is above that Number in each Copy, You shall allow him one half penny. So that if the 8vo. Copy consists of Forty four Sheets, instead of Forty, You are to give him for every Copy one and Twenty Stivers instead of Nineteen.

Besides this he promises, that the Letter shall be very neat & curious; and the Paper of the best sort that is ever us'd here in printing. These proposals, I believe, can hardly fail of meeting with the Honoble Societies Approbation, as it lessens the Expence of the whole by a great deal, from what was first expected. This is what Mr. Van de Water promises to perform on his part, upon the following Conditions. 1st

That

That he be furnish'd with a Copy to print from by the Gentlemen. 2dly That the Corrector be paid at their Expence. 3dly That considering the great Expence he will be at, in Casting a double Set of Types, and the Risque there may be in those Characters lying useless upon his hands in Case this Work should not go on, a Sum of Fifty pounds Sterling be advanc'd him, before he sets his man at Work to cast the Types, and that upon Consideration of that Sum, he will take all chances upon himself. He offers likewise, that in Case something extraordinary should Intervene, to stop the printing, to give you his set of Types, and to Allow the Fifty pounds receiv'd at first, in part of the Payment. 4thly That after the Types are cast, which will require Six Months, 150. pounds more be paid him, and the remaining 600. pounds (the 8000. Copies amounting to about 800 £) at three different Payments. viz.t 200 £. at the finishing of the Gospels and the Acts; 200 £. at the ending of S.t Paul's Epistles, and the remaining 200. pounds when the whole New Testament shall be ready to be deliver'd. If the Honoble Society is pleas'd to agree to these Terms, and to Advance upon the Credit and probability of Succes, the Sum of 50. pounds, and remit it me forthwith over to be paid to M.r Van de Water, The Work will be set about instantly, and shall be able to acquaint the Society, that I have seen it begun, before I left Utrecht. Whatever is resolv'd upon, I desire you would acquaint me with without delay, and I will endeavour to execute punctually what Commands the Society shall be pleas'd to Honour me with. I remain with my humble Respects to the Honoble Society

Dear Sir

Your most Obliged humble Servant

Henry Hastings

Utrecht

25/14. Octob.r 1720.

To Mr. Newman

Sir,

I am very glad the Society have got over the Objection that was Started in relation to an Edition of the New Testament and Psalter in Arabick; which, if I mistake not was founded upon a Suggestion that it would be of little or no Use to the Inhabitants of Palestine, and those Countries for whose Instruction it was chiefly intended, few if any of the common People being able to read Arabick.

I assure you, Sir, that when I liv'd in those parts, there were publick Schools not only at Aleppo, Antioch, Damascus, Tripoly, Sidon, Jerusalem &c. but in most of the considerable Villages thereabouts, where Children were taught both to read and write Arabick; and I don't doubt but there are so still: And the earnest desire those poor People have express'd for a new Edition of the Scriptures in their Language, makes me think there would have been no Colour for that Objection, if this charitable Design had taken Effect some Years ago.

Dover-street
28. Novemb. 1720.

H. Brydges.

To Mr. Newman

Sir,

I have the Honour to concur with Dr. Brydges in the Testimony he has given concerning the Establishment of Schools in those Countries, for whose Benefit the Edition of the New Testiment & Psalter is intended.

GOD be prais'd, the Christian Clergy in those Parts have not so abandon'd the Care of their Flocks, as not to teach them to read: And if they should of themselves, have been dispos'd to so much Negligence; yet the

the very Example of the Mahometans, who every where take this Care of their Youth, would admonish them of their Duty in this Respect: And as the Society very well know, that the Tenth Canon of the Second Nicene Synod (which the Greeks esteem as a General Council) declares it to be the Duty of some of the Clergy to teach Schools, telling them, that They receiv'd the Office of Priesthood for this Purpose: So I assure You, as a Matter of my own Knowledge, that in all the Cities where I have been able to make any Observations, some or other of the Clergy are appointed to teach Children to read; and I heard the same of the other Cities where I have never been; which I think I have Reason to believe, because I am sure Schools are taught even in considerable Villages.

And though (after all) I don't presume to say, that reading is so common in the East, as it is in England; yet I think I may venture to assure the Society, that neither they, nor any one else, ought to have any doubt that there are vastly greater Numbers of Christians in the East, who are both able and desirous to read the New Testament in Arabick, than they will be able to supply with Books.

S.t Paul's Church Yard
29.th Novemb.r 1720.

Sam. Lisle.

&c.

To m.r Newman

Sir

I read over Your Extract relating to the Arabick New Testament: I think there is enough to Satisfy any reasonable man of the Charity and Usefullness (so I would rather have it, than necessity) of such a Design.

I am clearly of Opinion to print it without any Preface, or Discourse whatsoever, which may raise a Prejudice against it, and hinder it's being dispos'd, and read, in the Countries for wch it is design'd. When I know what You resolve, and see how your Subscriptions run, I will give my Small Mite towards the promotion of so useful a Book. I am Sir your very Loving Friend

10. Octob.r 1720.

Wm Cant.

To Mr. Newman

Sir,

Yours with the printed Abstract of some Letters relating to the Psalms and New-Testament You design to print in Arabick I have receiv'd. What You write about the Arabick Language being us'd in the East Indies as far as Siam is a Mistake: for except some Arabs that Travel into those parts, there are very few that understand it. But the Language made use of in their Writings, Letters &c. Specially by the Mahometans, is Persian: and this hath occasion'd the Mistake. I find by the Proof You sent me, that You have printed my Name Dr. Geo: Lewis, whatever You may call me in private discourse, I desire I may not be term'd so in Print, 'till I have taken that degree. Being now on my way to London I trust to see You in a short time. In the mean while I remain

Sir

Your most Humble Servant

George Lewis.

Dolgelly
21. Octob.r 1720.

To Mr. Newman,

Sir,

I Recd Yours last night, but having not been able to attend of late at the Board as I us'd to do, I am pretty much a Stranger to what has pass'd there, and — particularly with respect to the New Edition of an Arabick Testament &c. which You mention in Your Letter, such a Design has indeed an Appearance of doing great Service to Our Holy Religion and good to our Fellow Christians in the Eastern parts of the World, and the bringing it to Perfection will be a particular Glory to this Kingdom; but I must beg leave to mention one or two Discouragments that appear to me considerable, thô I heartily wish they were not so; One I heard accidentally yesterday, viz.t That the Christians of those parts, for whom, this Benefit is intended, do not at present either Speak or Understand the pure Arabick Tongue, and that consequently a New Testament in the Purity of that Language (as is I suppose, intended) will be of little or no use to the greatest Number of these poor Christians, thô it may be so to their Spiritual Governours. The other Discouragment I fear will arise from the greatness of the Sum, to be allow'd on this Occasion especially at this time; when, if there were no other Distress-

Distress upon the Nation, there are so many kinds of Charitable Works carrying on, which do in a manner exhaust all that the best disposd for such Works can well spare, and leave them very often unable to supply the sudden occasional Wants of their distressed Neighbours, which yet I think they should not put it out of their Power to releive, by engaging themselves too deep in Charities abroad. This is a matter I have often thought of with some Concern, and do think it worthy of a more particular Consideration than has hitherto been given it. As to that You mention'd about using my Name for receiving Benefactions, the Board may Act as they please after I have thus freely deliver'd my Thoughts to Them upon the present Design; I shall always be ready as far as it is in my Power to answer their Expectations from me, tho' I take the Liberty to propose my Difficulties with a due Submission to their better Judgments, and am both Theirs and

Sir

Your Obliged Humble Serv.t to command,

Edw.d Waddington.

London 5. Nov.r 1720

To Mr. Newman.

Dear Mr. Newman,

This waits on You with my Thanks for the Sight of Mr. Negri's Letter about the Arabick points, which seems to me very Judicious and Right. Now I mention that, let me recommend to You the greatest Master of the Arabick Tongue, now Simon Ockley is dead and gone, in all England, I mean as to the Theory of that Language: 'tis Dr. Wotton, to whom if the Committee think fit to make any Application, and send him a Copy of the Letters You have printed, perhaps You will have Reason to thank hereafter,

Dear Sir

Yours &c.a

J. Chamberlayne.

Petty France Westminst.r

31. Octob.r 1720.

To—

To Mr. Newman.

Sir

I have now by me Your Proposal for encouraging a New Impression of the Testam.t and Psalter in Arabick which I most heartily wish Success to, and shall be ready to do all that lies in my Power to promote so good a Work. I shall be in Town the end of this next Week In the mean time I beg leave to Subscribe my self

Sir,

Bushy Hall
1. Novem.r 1720.

Your most Obedient Humble Serv.t

H. Bridges.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir,

I Receiv'd Your Letter this Night, with the Proposal for printing the New Testament and Psalter in Arabick. I have been often thinking of the Necessity of having the New Testament printed and sent to those poor Christians in the East, but I could not tell what Language it is that they do best understand. And seeing the Gentlemen that have liv'd in those parts think the Arabick is a Language that is understood by those Christians; I very much wish and desire that this Design may go on and that it may be set about as soon as is possible. I am willing also to have my Name put down as a Receiver of Benefactions, and I will by my own Subscription, and every way that I can contribute to the carrying on so good a Work; Only I beg again, that it may be set about as soon as possible. I am

Sir,

Amen Corner
3. Novem.r 1720.

Your Faithfull Humble Serv.t

Will. Stanley.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir.

I Beg You to assure the Honoble Society that my hearty endeavours shall never be wanting to employ my very small Capacity in correcting the proof for the Edition of the New Testament and Psalter in Arabick; tho' I am sensible that my

Name will be but a Cypher, after such a great Master of the Oriental Languages as Mr. Negris is, has Supervis'd the Sheets. My Saxon Laws will be finish'd by February next, and I shall have more Leisure then, to what I have now, to Obey the Commands of the Honoble Society, by You to be communicated to

Sir

Lambeth House
28. Novem. 1720.

Your very Humble Servant
D. Wilkins.

To John Chamberlayne Esq.

Sir,

Last Tuesday's Post brought me the Proposals for printing an Arabick Testament and Psalter in London for the Use of the Christians in the East. Tho' it came without a Letter, yet supposing it came by Your Direction, I desire You to accept of my humble Thanks for communicating to me so Valuable a Design. I am charm'd with the Paper, especially with Mons. Negri's Letter which taught me several Curious things which I did not know before. As I never heard of that very extraordinary Person before so it has rais'd my Curiosity to know who he is, how long he has liv'd among us, & what he has written, and in what Regions, and in what Employm. he has spent his time. If Your inclination leads You to satisfye me in these particulars I shall be thankfull. Now to the matter in hand.

The Design is indisputably excellent, and I heartily pray to God that it may be brought to bear; Since the printing the Beautifull Edition of the Syriac Testam. at Vienna by Widman Stadius at the Expence of Ferdinand I. for the use of the Syriac Churches, I have not seen any thing of this kind, which has pleas'd me so well. But here I would crave leave to Suggest one thing to Your Honoble Society. Dr. Pocock printed a Collection out of the English Liturgy in Arabick in 8vo. for the use of the Christians in the East. In that there are Morning and Evening Prayer, the Litany, the Offices of the Eucharist & Baptism, the 39. Articles and the Contents of the Homilies. But then in the Arabic Title Page, the Prayers are said to be after the Usage of the Church of England. King Charles. II. was pray'd for by Name, and in a Word the whole was design'd to recommend our Liturgy to the Christians of those remote Regions, what I would Offer is, that possibly the

annexing

Annexing) of the Morning and Evening Prayers with the Litany may have it's Use and without any mention direct or Oblique of their being us'd by us. But this I only offer at, perhaps it may be improper; most likely it has been suggested already & rejected for very good reasons since I have been Honour'd so far as to have my Opinion ask'd, In a matter in which men every way so much more Able have given their Opinions, and directed how the Work shou'd be carryed on in the best manner, I thought it my Duty to throw in my Mite. I am with Respect

Carmarthen,
23. Decem.r 1720.

Sir,

Your most humble Serv.t

W. Wotton.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir,

I Recd Yours of the 6.th Instant O. S. with an Inclos'd Copy of the Proposals for printing the New Testament in Arabick. After I have shown it to Several Friends here and at the Hague I'le take care to send it to Prof. Lampe at Utrecht.

As the Society seems now pritty much determin'd to have it printed in England, shall only mention, that as to the Proposals made here, Mr. Vander Aaa, has since Calculated, that in Case 8000. Copies be printed, he can afford the first 4000. at 36. Styvers; and the other 4000. at 33.½. which stills fall much short, of the Proposal made by Mr. van de Water. Sir Robert de Newville had desir'd an Acquaintance of His, to write to Hall, to know at what Rate the Printers of the Orphan House could afford the Impression. The Oriental Professor there, return'd the Answer, of which you have here a Copy inclos'd, and a Specimen of the Letter. I am sorry I had not time to Translate it, but Mr. Boehm will do it much better, But indeed the Principal thing now to be consider'd, seems to be the Purchase of Erpenius's Matrices. I have discours'd Several times with Vander Aaa about them, He show'd them me all, Several, of them seem to be quite New, but all of them in a very good Order and well preserv'd. As to having a Font of Types cast in those Matrices, he absolutely refuses; but he is willing to part with the Matrices themselves. The Case is thus. Erpenius who was exceeding Curious in all parts of Oriental Learning was at the Expence of having New Matrices made, by the greatest and best Workmen of those times not of the Arabick only but of the Hebrew Syriack and Rabbinical Tongue. This vast

Undertaking

Undertaking ruind him; and oblig'd him soon after to part with them to the
His widow was offer'd by the English Envoy in Charles the II. Reign 7000 Gilders
for the Arabick Matrices only; But the University having a great mind for
them, and not being then in Cash to purchase them; allow'd Elzevir and his wife
after him a Pension of 300. Gilders p. Ann, not to part with them, and promis'd
in a short time to pay a handsome Sum for them, But the Widow being very
much Streightned for Money sold them to Van der Aaa, who now will not part
with the Arabick Matrices, without the others, and asks for them all 10000. Guilders
which is somewhat under 1000. £. There are 4. Square Boxes full of Arabick
matrices
one with Hebrew ones, one with Syriac and one with Rabbinical Letters; —
with several other Implements belonging to them. He says there are compleat
Alphabets of each; and to the Arabick ones you have the same Points and Distinctions
as you see in Erpenius's New Testament and in the inclos'd Specimen, which is
printed from Letters cast in these Matrices. But Van der Aaa desires you
would not Judge of the Beauty of the Letter by this Specimen, because it was
only Design'd as a Proof, for him to make his Estimate by, of the Expence of this
new
Impression, But that otherwise the Impression is much cleaner and more
even. If I had Orders to treat with him and a certain Sum to offer, I believe
he would take 3. or 4000. Gilders, and leave them for 6000 — ready Money. As
this may be too large a Sum for the Society to Advance at present, I would humbly
propose and Submit it to the Society's Consideration; whether it is not Adviseable
to engage or offer to one of our Universities to be joint Purchasers with them
of all these Matrices. I can't but think either of our Universities would relish the
Proposal, as it would bring into their Possession the finest Sett of Matrices —
extant; Or otherwise Cambridge or Oxford might be the Sole Purchasers, upon the
Society's promising them a certain Sum for the Use of their Matrices to cast a double
Sett of Types, which would make the Purchase easier to them. But beforehand it
will be necessary for some understanding man in these Languages, to Examine
whether the Alphabets of each of these Languages are compleat or not, and how
many Setts there are of each. I know a Gentleman here who understands these
Languages whome I believe I could engage to take this trouble upon him, in Case
the Society should Resolve, to purchase them. I shall go shortly for the Hague and
Rotterdam, but I can Still receive the Society's Orders, if they could come to a speedy
Resolution about them, and I shall be very willing to return from Rotterdam to Leyden
to execute their Orders. I Remain

Sir,

Your most humble & most Obedient Servt

Leyden
27. Decem. N.S. 1720.

Henry Hastings.

To Mr. Newman

Sir,

The proposal which You sent me, for printing the Psalter and New Testament in Arabick, I have read over, and highly approve: And tho' I cannot give much towards the Charge of so good a Work (by reason of the many other Occasions of Charity, which are continually upon my hands) yet something I will give; and the proportion shall be, what I can well spare, at the time, when You want Your Money for this Use. I believe my Dean and Mr. Finch, and some of the Prebendaries and Dignitaries of my Church, will likewise give something. And to this End, You may send a Proposal to the Dean, and with it some few others, to be distributed, as he shall think fit. My Recommendation would carry too much of Constraint in it: Otherwise, I would very readily use it, on so Good an Account. I am

Sir

Your Assured Friend &
Humble Servant

W. Ebor:

Bishop's-Thorpe
29th. Decem. 1720.

To John Chamberlayne Esq.r

Sir,

I find by the Packet sent me by Mr. Newman, that the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge design an Edition of the New Testament & Psalter in Arabick, the most Universal Language in the Levant for the Use of poor Christians & others there. I cannot contribute to so Christian a Design otherwise than in giving somewhat to the Society to carry it on; ..... for which End I shall returne one hundred pound to my worthy Friend Mr. Ireland, who I have desired ..... to pay it to You, and I hope it will be paid towards y.e end of next Week & You know where to pay it for the use of the Society. I am

Sir

Your humble Servant

Jo: Landaff

Hereford
4 Janry. 1720/1

(50)

To Mr. Newman.

Sir

I believe the Design of Printing the New Testament & Psalter in Arabick, must needs meet with Encouragement here, as well as in other places, in Case proper Application be made to the University; And that the best way of doing this, is for some Eminent Members of the Society to desire the Duke of Somerset our Chancellour to recommend the matter to his Vicechancellor; Or if that cannot be done, a Letter may be sent to the Vicechancellor from the Society, with Copies of the Proposals to be communicated by him to the Several Colleges. I wish that the principal College were in a Condition, to contribute something more than Money to any of the great and glorious Designs of the Society. I am.

Trin. College Cambridge
8. Janry. 1720/1

Sir
Your most Humble &
Obedient Serv.t
J. Colbatch.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir,

It is certainly a New Letter and a very long one that the King has Receivd from the Missionaries. Count Bothmer tells me that the King has not read it yet. I find that the said Count and our German Chancery will take hold of that Letter, in order to draw the Answer and will keep it from me as they now do every thing. I wish You would call at Count Bothmer's about it, he lives in S.t James's Square.

My Lord Stanhope is very desirous to Speak to You about that New Testament to be printed in Arabick, and is willing to perswade the King to contribute 4. or 500. pounds towards it. Pray call at that Lord's as from me some Morning about ten, and bring him such another printed Book, as You gave me. I remain with respect

S.t James's Palace
9. Janry. 1720/1.

Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
J. Robethon.

To. The Revd. Mr. Seaton.

Sir,

I thank You for Yours of the 3. and the Proposal You sent me about that Excellent piece of Charity in Propagating the Gospel by printing it in Arabick. I have communicated it to several here and by what I already find I believe I shall be able to Collect for it to the Value of 60 £. or upwards besides what the Arch Bishop will give who was Acquainted with the matter before, and only waits to know what readiness they are in for the beginning of this Work, of which I presume it may be proper for Mr. Newman to give His Grace an Account.

And I should be glad to hear from You whether there is so much Encouragement given to it as that we may hope the Sum propos'd is likely to be raisd and the Work finishd accordingly. I am—

Sir

Your very humble Servant

Henry Finch.

York
11. Janry. 1720/1.

To. Mr. Newman

Sir.

I Receivd from You the Society's Letter which gives an Account of their Satisfaction in their New Method of distributing Books: May all other their Undertakings prosper in their Hands; particularly their Endeavour to Propagate Christianity in Palestine, and the Countries adjacent: when the Extract of Letters and Proposals for receiving Benefactions are Publishd, I will communicate the matter, where I think something will be given; But if I can get nothing (money is scarce in those Parts) of any one else; I hope the Society will accept of so small a Sum as Twenty pounds from theirs, and

Your most humble Servt.

Geo: Barnsley.

Selscomb.
14. Janry. 1720/1.

As soon as I can get a Return for 20. £. it shall be paid either to Mr. Shute or Henry Hoare Esqr.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir

A person who has the Honour and Happiness to have been a Member of both Societies, viz.t of that for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts and that other for promoting Christian Knowledge at Home from their first Setting up — desires You humbly to propose to those Persons who have the Care and Ordering of Printing the New Testament and the Psalter in the Arabick Language for the Countries where it's most in Use whether it may not be convenient since a good part of those Psalms are so fitted to the then particular Circumstances of the Writer Such as were being persecuted and Oppressed by his Enemies or afflicted with Sickness &c. as not to be fitt for general Use as others are, it may not be thought reasonable to print some Select Psalms than the whole Book by which means one half or perhaps two thirds of the Charge of Printing the whole Book may be saved, and the Service thus order'd may be rendred more reasonable and better suited both for the — Publick Worship and for private Devotion either in the Family or in the Closet.

If this Proposal should be approv'd by the Managers and other Competent Judges he farther offers to their Consideration those Psalms which are mentioned in the Paper sent with this and such of them may be retain'd or others put in their places or added to them as shall be thought most Suitable to the above mentioned Design.

He farther humbly proposes to their Consideration that this Collection Amounting, as he guesses, to about one fourth part of the Psalter, may be divided as equally as conveniently may be into Seven parts one of which may be used every day of the Week, and each seventh part divided into two parts, one for the Morning and the other for Evening Service that Day.

Psalms. 1. 4. 5. 8. 11. 14. 15. 16. 19. 23. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 32. 33. 34. 36. 37. 39. 40. 46. 47. 49. 50. 51. 53. 57. 58. 65. 67. 71. 84. 86. 90. 91. 92. Psalms for the Sabbath. 103. 104. 107. 111. 112. 113. 121. 123. 124. 125. 127. 128. 130. 134. 136.

These are the Psalms which the Proposer thought most fit to be printed instead of the whole Arabick Psalter as being of most general Use; however if the whole Psalter be printed as probably it will be thought most reasonable it will be proper to mention these or other like Psalms either in the begining or at the end of the Book as best fitted for the Design above mentioned, and to set some Mark at the Beginning of every Psalm as they think fit. The Contents of those

Papers —

and Submitted to the Judgement

Papers are humbly propos'd to the Consideration of the Directors and Managers of this Affair by a hearty well Wisher to this very highly useful & Noble Design and Instance of True Christian Charity.

Anonymus.

To Mr. Newman.

Good Mr. Newman

I return You thanks for the Books sent me concerning the Printing the Arabick New Testament and Psalter, and the Malabar Letters &c. The two You put in a Cover to Lord Bp. Durham; I sent to his Agent here, I wish they had been sent directly to him at Stean in Northamptonshire: whether they will find him from hence, I doubt.

How many here will be Contributors to so good a Work I know not but I will cast in my Mite, that is, five pounds, which with my London Rents are gather'd and paid in to Mr. Moore You may expect a Bill for. Pray make my humble Services acceptable to the Honoble Society, and be assur'd that I am their and Your

Affectionate
Humble Servant
Geo: Wheler

Durham
20. Janry. 1720/1.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir,

I had sent You a Letter sooner, save that I had reguard to the last Paragraph of Your Letter; and consequently was in some faint hopes of remitting You a Small Sum towards the Charge of Printing the Arabick New Testament and Psalter, But tho' I made my Application to those whom I thought most likely to contribute to so good a Design, yet I Receiv'd nothing but cold and delatory Answers, and so cannot as yet prevail to Effect my purpose, and what the Result will at last Amount unto I cannot foresee; only I fear it will End in a Disappointment, which I am sorry to recount in this unto You. Pray accept of this Trouble from him who is

Your most Affect & Faithfull Serv.t
Henry Robinson.

Leeds
21. Janry. 1720/1.

To Mr. Newman.

Good Sir,

I shall be glad to see the 4th. Volume of Letters relating to the Propagation of the Gospel in the East as soon as it comes out, as also the Extract of Letters and Proposals for the Printing of the New Testament in Arabick for the Purpose mention'd in the Society's Letter; and therefore beg You will send me 3. or 4 Copies of each, when Publish'd, and put them down to my Account, which when I have, I hope I may get a few Contributions towards those Designs which deserve the Assistance of all Christians.

My humble Service to Mr. Shute, & let him know that the 4 L. which Mr. Whiston paid to him, was towards the Propagation of the Gospel in the East. Viz. Mr. Tymperon 1 L. Mr. Ray. L. s. d. 1 1 0 —. Mr. Wallet 10 s. Mr. Saunders 1 L. Anonimus 9 s.

I think it would not be amiss to send one of the Society's Circular Letters to the Rever. Mr. Saunders Rector of Burly near Oakham in Rutlandsh. (my Lord Nottingham's Town) who is one very well dispos'd as well as able to do and promote Charitable and Christian Designs. He gave me 10 L. three years ago towards the Propagation of the Gospel abroad and has since given 20 Shillings a Year towards the carrying on the same Design in the East.

My humble Service to the Honoble Society, who am

Dear Sir

Your very Respectfull Friend & Humble Servant

Wm. Turner.

Stamford
4. Febry. 1720/1.

To Mr. Newman.

Honor. Sir,

I have lately Recd Yours from the Society, and have endeavour'd to make it as usefull as I can, by imparting it particularly to some persons that are likely to contribute to the Society's Pious and Noble Designs, that of Printing the New Testament &c. in Arabick, is much approvd of among my Friends in these parts, and I have recommended it to my Brethren at Windsor. But whether it might not Answer the Society's Good Designs to Print the New Testament without

without the Psalter (which would save a great deal of the Expence, & enlarge the Numbers of the New Testament) I leave the wise Societ to Judge: and am with all Respect Their and

Upminster
11. Febry. 1720/1.

Your humble Servant
Wm. Derham.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir,

As for what You tell me about the Polyglott, and that You can have the New Testament alone for 25s. and the Lexicon for about 40. I find it is very dear, for I had once from Mr. Bedman the Bible for £5.7s. and the Lexicon from Mr. Ynnyes for 28s. well bound. It is true these two Books may suffice for me at present, but I will always want the others for the time to come. So that if You can Borrow from some Body the Volume of the New Testament for ten days; we will wait for the Occasion to have whole what Bible. As for the rest I do rely upon You and will be ready to accept of it You please to command me. I am

London
13. Febry. 1720/1.

Sir,
Your most humble Servt.
Salomon Negri.

To the Reverend Mr. Samuel Lisle
at the Rose & Crown in St. Paul's
Churchyard, London.

Reverend Sir,

By your Ships from London which Arrivd at Scandaroone the 20th. Instant, I was favourd with Your Obliging Letter of the 14. Decem. and with singular Pleasure and Satisfaction read both the welcome News of Your good Health and the many kind Expressions of that Affection and Esteem

which You are pleas'd still to retain towards me, And I do assure You I have nothing more at heart than to have frequent Opportunities of shewing by some Service to You the high Value I put upon them and how much I desire their Continuance.

The Letter which You was pleas'd to write me about the End of July by way of Marseilles is not yet Arriv'd me; 'Tis probable that the Plagues breaking out there has been the Cause of it's delay, and that when it pleases God to remove that Heavy Visitation, Your Letter may then Arrive; In the Interim it is with a most Sensible Joy that I see the Intentions of the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge to print an Arabick Version of the New Testament for the Benefit of the Christians in these Eastern Countries, and shall very willingly give the Copies which I have by me of the New Testament and the Psalter, or any other Books, to contribute towards so good a Work, if You'l give them in Your own Name; for as I did what I perform'd towards bringing them to the State they are now in, only as an Act of Charity, my desire and Intention was to have them come out as such Performances ought, without any thing that might look like seeking of Glory from Men, and to leave it to him that sees in private, when he shall think fit to call me from this to a better Life, to reward me openly; And to these Sentiments I was induc'd not only from a Sense of my Duty from the Nature of the thing it self, but in Gratitude to Your self, I resolv'd to do it by Your hand by presenting You a Copy of the Books in return of the Assistance which Your kind hand so frequently gave to Support and incourage my otherwise weak Endeavours; And for that reason I could wish You had not nam'd my Name to the Society, because that Honoble Body would have had their Intent by having the Books from whose hands soever they came, And I should have had mine with so much greater Satisfaction if I had remain'd unknown to the Publick. You being pleas'd to desire me to write You a Letter over Land to the Proposal of the Society, I do it now by way of Leghorn to Acquaint You that in humble Obedience to the Commands of His Grace the Arch Bp. of Canterbury, and to Your and the Honble Society's Desires, the Books shall be sent You with all Convenient speed; that is the Psalter, to which is added S.t Gregory Nyssenus's 2. Homilies on the Titles of the Psalms translated from the Latin of the Paris Edition by a Syrian Father since You went away, and afterwards compar'd with the Original; 'Tis a small Folio of the Size of this Paper, of a large Letter fit for their Churches, and I have caus'd another to be written in a Small Octavo fit for common Use and Portable anywhere; These shall be sent You by the return of our Ships, and so should the New Testam.t have been too, could the New Copy which is now beginning in a Small Folio, have

been

been got ready by that time; That Copy which I had fair by me when You was here, You may please to remember, was in a small Octavo with some few Marginal Annotations out of the Commentators which You was pleas'd to furnish me with; which Volume with the Index of Names &c. annex'd to it and the Psalter, I carryed to the Greek Patriarch for his Approbation and Seal, but he being then preparing from a Voyage to Stambole had not time to review them but promis'd it when he return'd, which he saying he computed would be about 12. Months, I set my Amanuensis to write out one in a Small Folio, and my self at my Leisure hours to review the Learned Grotius, and out of him collected such further Annotations as I thought of Use to the People, and could be Express'd in few words, and some few also out of a Famous Coptick Author, one Ebn el Assaaly, who had wrote a Comment on the Gospels in Arabick, and these I added to the Folio Copy, having first of all had them perus'd by the Reverend Syrian Father Paulo Abdelnor whom You know, and whose Company I have had the happiness of for some time past at my house. The Patriarch return'd some months ago from Stambole, but being chosen likewise to Damascus in the Room of Capillus decens'd, and preparing for a Journey thither I could not offer him the Books leaving that till His return, which will be, God willing, in a few Months, when I intend to do it, and Endeavour to obtain His Seal by way of Approbation to them all. The Comment of Chrysostom on St. John He formerly Sign'd and so no doubt he will with the same readiness do it now to the whole Volume containing also St. Matthew which was not formerly to be found. The Psalter is his own, and St. Gregory Nyssenus's Comment on the Titles of the Psalms I believe he won't dislike, nor any thing in the present Folio Copy of the New Testament unless it be the Cannon of the Holy Scriptures with a Separation of the Apocriphal Books and St. Jerom's Sentiment on them as it's mention'd in the Church of England's Edition of her 39. Articles, which he once formerly Intimated his Desire to have left out, and offer'd to give me on that Condition his Approbation to my Copy. It remains only that You'l please to consider Your self and with other Friends and let me then have the Sentiments of the Honoble Society whether, if the Patriarch demurrs to Sign the Copy with the Cannon as above mention'd, it may be more Eligible to leave that and what else is said of the Books of the Old Testament out, and I will accordingly Govern my self. The Greeks here use no intire Copy of the New Testament in their Church; and have instead of it only a Collection out of it, like what is in our Common Prayer Book, of the Epistles and Gospels, which and the Psalter they use in their Church I have given Orders to provide, and shall be sent You by the return of the Ships, and shall have also the Patriarch's own Edition of the 4. Gospels in print, and a Copy of the Manuscript of the rest of the New Testament which

which he was pleas'd to favour me with when I was setting on Adjusting my own, and which he said he would warrant to be Genuine, and that I might rely on it: As to the Patriarch himself and what You was pleas'd to Intimate to me of what You have said of him to the Honoble Society, I concurr intirely with Your Opinion of his personal Merits; But in this I differ, that as, Humanum est errare, he has fail'd very much in his Conduct by permitting the Romish Missionaries to visit, ad libitum, the houses of his People, for by that means they gain'd such Ground as to Infect most of them, both Clergy and Laity, and in his absence rais'd such Heats & Animosities, as had like to have oversett both his Church and Authority too, and also the Armenians and Syrians too, had it not been for

And when he came back from Stambole, and disapprov'd their Proceedings, His own People told him to His Face, that they had done nothing but what he himself formerly Approv'd, and they made him so uneasy, that he the sooner left them and sett out for Damascus; And how his Conduct and Temper may be when he returns time only can shew; And they may probably be regulated very much by what Measures the Armenian Patriarch at Stambole who is in high Esteem with the Supream Vizier, may take to regulate and Retrieve the Disorders caus'd by the Romish Missionaries among his Flock, both here and in other places of this Empire. But however as to the Manner of Printing the Book without a Preface &c. or even so much as mentioning the place it is done at, what You write is highly prudent, and I take the Freedom to add only my humble Opinion, that it may be likewise better and more Subservient to the main Intention of the Honoble Society in doing good to the Severall Branches of the Christian Religion in these Eastern Countries, if they make as little mention as may be of it in their Publick Papers and Letters and of what Advices they have of the Progress of their Charity in these parts, that They may not too soon raise the Clamours and Opposition of the Romish Missionaries and their perverted followers; for You may Imagine how much they will be alarm'd at such a Noble and Christian Design, which Strikes at the very Root of what they have been building upon these many Years past.

The Armenian Metropolite of Jerusalem who was lately here in his way to Jerusalem from Stambole, and is a Prelate of singular Prudence and Worth in all respects, promis'd me to cause the Books I had provided in Arabick to be Translated into Armenian for the use of his Nation at his own Expence, having as he said a Bp. at Jerusalem every way capable of doing it. The cause of my mentioning such a thing to him was, that a Bp. who came along with him, having

Honour'd

Honour'd me with a Visit on Acco.t of some Letters &c.a which the Metropolite desir'd to have Transmitted to Stambole for their Patriarch. I improv'd the Opportunity to shew him the Books I had provided and told him my Intention to spread them as much I could by giving Copies at my own Expence to the Churches of the Greeks and Syrians here, and the Greek Churches in Alexandria and Jerusalem; And hereupon that was pleas'd to ask me if I would not do the same Charity to their's too at Jerusalem; I told him I would do it very willingly if they understood Arabick, or if the Metropolite would cause them, at my Expence, to be Translated into Armenic and it being propos'd accordingly to the Metropolite, he not only embrac'd the latter with a readiness Suitable to his Dignity, but said that himself would bear the Expence of it; So I have still the Intention of sending Copies to all the aforemention'd Churches and the Armenian Church at Jerusalem, as fast as they can be wrote out; And if the Society's Present of the same comes afterward they will find Receivers enough for them. With the Psalter which I send by the Ships in Arabick, I will also send you one which I caus'd at first to be wrote out in two Columns Greek and Arabick, as I intended to send one to the Church of the Greeks here for their daily Use, but I desisted on the Patriarch Authanasius's telling me that so few even of his own Clergy understood Greek, that it would be a needless Expence and of no use to them or any else of His People; So it can now only Serve to shew how Carefull I was in what I undertook for the Good of others and Honour of our own Nation; and You may keep or present the Book to any one from Your self as You please; And I send You this Letter over Land now purely to Acquaint You how ready I am to comply with any request You are pleas'd to make, and that I do it with Joy to be assisting in so Good and Noble a Work as this which You have recommended to me, onely I once again make my Request to You to present to the Honoble Society in Your own Name the Copies I give You and to desire them not to be Unmindfull of the Intimation I have taken the Freedom to make, that it will contribute more to the Publick Benefit here in what They design, if they make no mention of it in any of their Publick Papers or Discourses.

You may please to favour me to tender my humble Service to Mr. Secretary Newman, and Acquaint him that, God willing, I will

Answer

Answer the Letter of 17th December, which he did me the Honour to write me by the Ships, when they return. The Reverend Mr Soley injoyns me to tender You his Respects, and Acquaint You that he will write to You by the Ships, when they return; and that Mr Fawkener tells him You have sent him a Letter by these Ships, but that it is not come up yet; So he Supposes it may be with some of the Gentlemen Passengers. I am with much Respect

Aleppo. 24. Febry. 1720/21.

Rever.d Sir

Your most Obliged Friend &
Humble Servant
Rowland Sherman.

The Book which You have Sent by Capt. Williams for the Greek Patriarch I have Sent forward and when it comes, I will take due Care to send or deliver it.

D.o R. S.

To Henry Hoare Esq.r

Sir,

The Money which I have collected for printing the New Testament and Psalter in Arabick amounts to 75 l. 4 s. 6 d. I desire therefore that as You are one of the Receivers for this Excellent piece of Charity You will please to pay Your self so much for that Use, and place it to the Account of

York
13.. March. 1721.

Your very humble Servant
Henry Finch.

To Mr Newman.

Sir,

Tho, humanly speaking, it is a great unhappiness to the Mission in the East Indies to lose so usefull a person as Mr Ziegenbalg is discribed to have been, yet if it be the Will of God that the truth of his Gospel should at this time prevail among those who now sit in Spiritual Darkness, his Providence will raise up fit Instruments for the Propagation of it.

The gratefull Sense which the Missionaries express for the Supplies they have receiv'd from hence, but especially the Accounts they send of the Increase of

Christian

Christian Knowledge, will, I hope, raise them up new Benefactors, and prevail on their Old ones to continue their Charity for the carrying on so pious a Work.

The case of the Descendants of the Christians in the Turkish Dominions is highly worthy of the Zeal of the Society; every man who knows how to value the Blessing of enjoying the word of God in his own Language, will assist them in this Undertaking with his Purse as well as his prayers; for my own part I shall gladly contribute what I am able towards the Arabick Version of the New Testament and Psalter, and upon all proper Opportunities earnestly recommend it to the Charity of others.

Pray give my humble Respects to the Society and believe me

Your very Faithfull Serv.t

Bishopsburn
14. March. 1720/1.

Cha: Bean.

To Mr. Newman.

Good Mr. Newman

I wish I could have been more Serviceable to the pious Design of the Impression of the Arabick New Testament, than I find I have been. Our Chapter has Postpon'd the Consideration of it, till I fear their Charity may increase, of which I stand in doubt.

I shall be glad to know how you proceed and then I will make my last Efforts, and return what I can obtain with my own.

If you please to make my humble Services acceptable to the Honoble Society You will Oblige

Your Friend &
Humble Serv.t

Durham
17. March. 1720/1.

Geo: Wheler.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir,

I am well pleas'd with the Proposal of Printing an Arabick Testament &c. The Case of the poor Christians in Palestine &c. is very deplorable. The light of the Gospel which first appear'd there is now under an Eclips; and seing

seing we receiv'd from thence the great Blessing of the Gospel which we now injoy, Common Gratitude should induce us to pitty their sad Condition, and to make some return for the many Advantages deriv'd thence. I cannot now guess what we may be able to raise on such an Occasion. Money is indeed scarce, and Benefactors of this kind very few. However I design to give an Example, and to use my Endeavours to excite some to follow it: That it meets with a Success Answerable to the Expectations of the Generous Promoters of it will be Agreeable News to

Sir,

Whickham
25. March. 1721.

Your Affect. Friend &
Humble Serv.t
Rob.t Thomlinson.

To. Mr. Newman

Dear Sir,

My serious Endeavours to promote the Arabick Version of the New Testament retarded the return of the rest of this Bill; £ s. d. 1-13-6. whereof is towards the Arabick Version of the New Testament, which You may please to pay to Mr. Chamberlayne.

I am sorry I have had no greater Success in the Arabick Charity, but the Generality of the Laity seem not to have so deep a Sence of the necessity of the Version as I think the matter deserves, and the Clergy, except Mr. Robinson who gave two Guineas, are generally less able, tho more willing. I was particularly pleas'd with two, Comparatively poor, Gentlewomen, who were so affected with my reading the Letters to them, that they gave each a Crown, whereas some wealthy Merchants kept the Books yet gave not a farthing, tho I Solicited some of them pritty warmly. I apply'd my self also to S.r Wm. Milner, of Leeds but they had got the Start of me at York where he had given 5. Guineas: I sent also by a friend to S.r John Ingleby, but he being personally Acquainted with Mr. Thute has promis'd to remit his Benevolence that way, and so I suppose will my Cousin Dr. Kirshaw. The Society will I hope accept of my Sincere desire to promote this truly pious & Excellent Design, tho it fall Short of what my Endeavours & Desires once prompt me to hope for.

Your Obliged Humble Serv.t
Ralph Thoresby

Leeds. 12. April. 1721.

Oxford 30. Avril 1721.

Monsieur

En reponse à la lettre dont vous m'avez honoré jointe à celle que M. Negri vous a écritte, je vous dirai qu'apres la recherche que j'ay faite, j'ay trouvé entre les MSS. de la Bibliotheque Bodleienne un Exemplaire qui a été donné par Mylord Narcisse Marsh Primat d'Irlande, le quel est exactement conforme à celui de M. William dont M. Negri a transcrit le premier Psaume qui se trouve le même mot pour mot, comme aussi le mot δόξα inseré en divers endroits apres un certain nombre de Psaumes, si non que le mot ἅλ qui signifie le matin ne se rencontre nulle part. Et à la fin des Psaumes il y a vingt deux Katisma ou prieres. Puis le Psaume attribué à David qu'il chanta apres sa victoire sur le Geant Goliat. Enfuit de quoy sont les dix Cantiques depuis celuy de Moyse jusqu'à celuy de Zacherie.

Il y a un Semblable Exemplaire dans la Bibliotheque du college de Sion à Londres que M. Negri peut aussi consulter.

J'ay encore trouvé trois autres exemplaires des Psaumes en Arabe parmi les Manuscrits de Rob. Huntington dont l'un est fait sur le Grec ex Graeco qui differe de celui de Mr. William & des imprimés des Bibles Polyglotte de Paris & de Londres, & de celui de Rome en 1614. faite par Victorius Sciala & Gabriel Sionita. Les deux autres sont écrits en letres Syriaque, à côté d'une version Syriaque en deux colonnes in folio. Ils different aussi entre eux & entre les autres editions. Mais aucun de ces trois Exemplaires n'a ny les Doxologies ny les Katismes ou prieres. Il y a seulement des Proæmiums ou prefaces tirées des peres Grecs comme de St. Athanase, Hippolyte, Basile, Epiphane, Gregoire le Theologien Evesque de Nysse, Chrysostom &c. & à la fin se trouvent les autres Cantiques du Vieux & du N. Testament.

Pour ce qui est des Katismas ou prieres, qui finissent toutes par une invocation à la vierge, Mr. Negri croit avec raison que

que vous n'aves pas dessein de les imprimer. Mais d'un autre côté, Si vous choisisses cet Exemplaire en omettant ces prieres, il est a craindre que les Grecs Superstitieux, accoutumes à les reciter, ne rejettent Vôtre Edition comme defectueuse; & que les Emissaires de Rome n'en prennent occasion de la decrier comme Suspecte & Venant de la part des Protestants.

Il Semble que ces prieres Sont modernes, & n'ont été inserées dans le Psautier que depuis que quelques Eglises d'Orient Se Sont Soumises au Siege de Rome; veu qu'elles ne Se trouvent dans aucun autre exemplaire, tant Manuscrit qu'imprimé, pas même dans celuy des Maronites.

Je chercheray les MSS. Arabes de N. T. comme vous le Souhaites, & feray tout ce qui Sera en mon pouvoir comme étant tres Sincerement

Votre tres humble & tres
obeissant Serviteur J. Gagnier.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir,

I perceive the Honoble Society proceed in their purpose of Printing A New Edition of the Arabick New Testament for the Benefit of the poor Remains of Christians dispers'd in Syria, Palestine &c. I pray God give Success to their Undertakings; and if it fall in my Way to do any thing to the furtherance of it, I shall be ready to do it to my Power, But I must own the Objections I have formerly made against it stick close by me Still.

Sir,

Old Swinford
22. April 1721.

Your most Affectionate
Humble Serv!
William Hallifax.

To Mr Newman.

Dear Sir,

Our little Society continues to meet regularly as formerly, and at last meeting upon the Report of the Extract of Letters relating to the great Charity and Usefullness of Printing the New Testament and Psalter in the Arabick Language for the Benefit of the poor Christians in Palestine &c. They gave two Guineas towards that pious Design, which indeed was more than all in our Little Stock, which is also remitted.

May the Almighty bless & prosper all the Good Designs and Endeav.s of the Honoble Society in promoting Xtian Knowledge both abroad and at Home, and Inspire a continual Succession of worthy Members with like Xtian Piety to perpetuate it to all Ages. I am

Dear Sir,

Your Affectionate
Humble Serv.t

Joh. Burroughs

Gillisham
29. April 1721.

(74)

To Mr. Newman.

Good Sir,

The News of Dr. Grundler's death is very sad: I pray God the loss of two such men so near to one another, do's not cause the happy prospect we had of the Increase of the Gospel in those parts to sink; or at least for the present put some Stop to it. The Loss of these two excellent Servants of Christ will make it absolutely necessary to send a new supply, as soon as possible, thither: I think Professor Frank, or some other proper person abroad, should be written to, without loss of time, about it.

I shall not forget to speak to such of the Bishops as I have any hopes of, to recommend the good Work of Your Arabic New Testament to their Chapters, as well as to favour it themselves: I have taken a Memorandum now in Writing on purpose to put me in mind of it; for in truth I have so many Affairs of Moment at this time upon my hands, that I scarce know which to begin with.

My want of Skill in the Arabick Language makes me a very unfit Judge of what You propose as to the best Translation of the Psalter: You have that which the Learned Dean of Norwich sent, and recommended to You, by me: But I beg we may have nothing printed but the real Psalms of David; No Spurious Additions, much less any Popery, joyned with them. I pray God to direct and prosper your good design: I am

Lambeth House
5. May. 1721.

Sir,
Your very Loving Friend
Wm Cant.

To Mr. Newman.

Sir,

My Lord Archbishop of Dublin exceedingly Approves of the Christian and Noble Design of Sending so many Copies of the New Testament in the Arabick Tongue to our poor Brethren in Palestine he thinks our Liturgy in the same Language would be of Singular Use. Believe me

Sir, Your very Affect. humble Serv.t
Hen: Maule.

Dublin
12. May. 1721.

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Vid La. 78. for Mr. Sherman's Letter of 29. Decemb. 1721.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Sherman at Aleppo dated 6th May. 1723.

To the Revd. Mr. Joseph Soley.

Rver. Sir,

I am favour'd with two of your obliging Letters one of the 11th. August from Ratisbone, and the other of the 14th. January from London both which gave me no little pleasure, and especially the first, because the Accident which we heard happen'd to you at Larakins, made me fear that tho' you escap'd, it might have some ill Consequences in your Journey on your health, but since you only mention the Accident, and add that you found the Air in Travelling sensibly promoted your Health; I am glad to see that Providence was doubly kind to you, both in saving your Life and increasing your health, May the same good Providence attend and prosper you all the rest of your Life with all imaginable happiness both in your person and all your Concerns.

I am very much oblig'd to you for the Account of your two Visits to the Greek Patriarch at Constantinople, and I wish you had done the same to the Armenian Patriarch that I might have had your Sentiments of him, he being thought by the uncorrupted part of that Church here, to be no Enemy to the Papists, nor to the Golden Means they have us'd to make him so; Nor a friend to those that would hinder their Progress, and has lately given an Instance of it with no little Finesse on the Bp of Aleppo, whom he first of all, without so much as telling him of it, caus'd to be turn'd out, and then pick'd a hole in his Coat and banish'd him; But I have recommended the Case so very earnestly to the Patriarchs of Antioch and Jerusalem, and pray'd them that jointly with him of Constantinople they mediate with the Armenian Patriarch to recall and reestablish the Bp. that with God's Blessing I hope it will succeed; And when he comes to be Settled here, he'l no doubt reassume his design of opening several Schools here for the Education of their Children and the Teaching and Expounding the Holy Scriptures to the people, And in the mean time the other Bp. who is now here for some Months, honouring me lately with a Visit, I put him on the same Design, and he promis'd me he would undertake it; and so has the Syrian Bishop Thuckerallah, who is no Patriarch and resides at Merdeen I often remind him with Letters to do it, not only in a greater Number here but in all other parts of his Jurisdiction, And have Solicited the Patriarchs of Antioch and Jerusalem to propose the like to the

Synod

Synod now sitting at Constantinople that they may by a Decree recommend to all these Oriental Churches to open Schools in all parts for the Education of Children in the Knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, and to command every Housekeeper to have at least the Psalter and New Testament in their Houses and to read them daily, And the Clergy to expound them on Sundays and Holy Days, as the best means to Arm the People against Seducers and make them know what the Christian Religion really is in it self, And extinguish the present heats and Animosities among the Professors of it. If this can be thus brought about it will soon put a New Face on Religion in the East, and be a Noble Preparacon for the Society's Benefaction when it comes; And in the mean time the Synod have published An Enchyridion against the Pope's Supremacy, that Radix Amaritudinis and some other points for the use of their People; And for the Benefit of those in these parts, the Patriarch Athanasius has caus'd it to be tarnd from Greek into Arab. If I can procure a fair Copy by that time the Wentworth Sails I'll send it you; And if the print the Greek with the Press they have now at Stambole, I will endeavour to procure and send you that too.

I have sent the Society my great and small Volume of the Psalter by the Olive Branch in January last, and the Folio Copy of the New Testament by the Halifax, and recommend them both to Mr. Lisle with a Repetition of my desire that no publick Mention be made of my Name, which I request that you will likewise please to take Care of. The Octavo Copy could not be sent now, partly because a Small matter is wanting in the transcribing, but chiefly because I would peruse that intirely with my own Eye as I have done the Folio once and would have done it a 2. time had the Stay of the Ships permitted me, for it is hardly imaginable what pains and care such a Work requires, and tho' I did it the best and with the most attention of mind that I could, I have since found 4 Small Errors, three of which I have noted in my Letter to Mr. Lisle, and will have them mended in the Octavo, and any others which possibly I may find in the perusal; And if there should still remain any I hope they'l not be of Import, and will be found out by them who are to have the Incumbence at home, whose minds being fresh to the Work will easier see what's amiss than I that have been fatiguing at it so long and with so little help from others, which has caus'd the Work to be so much longer doing than what the Society computed, as I find by a Letter from Mr. Lisle and by your own; But by the blessing of God it is now brought up, I hope when they see it they will think the time spent in doing it, well bestowed. I request likewise your Care that the Edition after I have been at so much pains and expence about it, may not be mutilated or altered by the Society, only to save Charge in printing it.

It is very happy for all those Charitable Designs of the Society and others, His Grace of Canterbury promotes them with a Zeal so truely Apostolick and so truely

tracly Suitable to his high Station in the Church, and therefore it may well deserve your thoughts and application to him to revive the Noble Foundation of the late Mr. Boyle for the Education of some youths of the Greeks, and extend it to all other Christian Nations in the East, which you may please to remember I have often discourd of with You, when we had the happiness of your Company here; And those if chosen by their Superiors here, and with promise of being employ'd in their Churches and Schools at their return, would be of excellent use, and sooner than any thing else produce the happy Effect which the Society intend to all our Christian Brethren by their Benefaction.

I am very much obliged to you for the Account you have favoured me with about the Convocation and other Disputes and Books printed in London, and only wish that on all Sides both there and here they would dispute less, or at least stick more to the express Words of the Holy Scriptures, which would bring all Parties at least to debate with that Charity which our Blessed Saviour has made the only Characteristick of his Disciples, and then perhaps those who have for so many Ages remain'd out of the Christian Church, might say in the Apostles Words, God is in you of a Truth, and be induced to come into it; Which God grant and all imaginable Happiness both to your self and all that may any ways assist in healing the Disunited and Discording parts of Mankind, as are the most sincere and Affectionate Wishes of

Rev.d Sr. Your most humble servant.

In a few days I shall write to the
Patriarch Athanasius, and I will acquaint him
of your having lost the List of Books which he gave you,
and pray him to send another, and remind him if he meets with any Old Manuscripts, to
send you them. When the Armenian Bishop returns hither from his Exile, I will
endeavour also to get him to enquire after the Old Deposit of Greek Mss.t at a Convent
of their's near Persia, which he mention'd once or twice to You and me; perhaps it
may contain many Valuable pieces that are at present lost to the Christian World.

R. S.

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To Mr. Newman.

Aleppo.
29th Decr 1721

Hon.d Sir

N.B. Should have entered Pa. 75.

The Letter which you was pleas'd to write me the 17th Decemb. last, I receivd the 29th February together with the Several inclos'd Papers. I very gladly imbrace the Opportunity of the return of our Ships to acknowledge the favour you have done me, and to pray you also to tender my humble Thanks to the Society for the Honour they have done me by their unanimous choosing me a Member of their Body, and to assure them that there is nothing that I wish than that it may please GOD not only to make me as able as I am willing to Answer their Desires by my Concurrence with them in a design so truly Noble as the Propagating of Christian Knowledge, but to extend the Blessing of it to the utmost part of the Habitable World; And that in respect of our Christian Brethren, it may lift up the hands which hang down, and the Feeble Knees of such as are not seduced, and heal those of them whom the Romish Missionaries have lamed and turn'd out of the way, and bring into it those that are without, whom either Worldly Interest, or unhappy Prejudice have kept from being obedient to the Doctrine of our Blessed Saviour.

I have perus'd with much Satisfaction the Papers you was pleas'd to send me of the Nature of the Honorable Society and their Rise and Progress; The Information which the Reverend Mr Soley had before favour'd me with on that Subject having prepar'd my mind to read them with greater Pleasure: But if it be not too soon for me to offer my Sentiments, I would take the Freedom to intimate to you that the Society must use great Caution in publishing either the Names or Advices of any Persons who assist or correspond with them in these Eastern parts for some time at least, till the People here come to be undeceivd, and enabled by the Charitable Endeavours of the Society at London to see through the thick Mists of wrong Notions which that at Rome hath so long spread before their Eyes.

I have long since had the Honour to acquaint you by the Reverend Mr Lisle that the Copies of the Psalter and New Testament in Arabick, which you are pleas'd to desire for the Society, shall be sent you as soon as possible; the former in two Sizes one a Smale Folio for the use of their Churches and Houses, and the other an 8vo for Travellers and such as remove from place to place. I have got very fairly transcribd, and bound with a short Comment of St. Gregorius Nyssenus, and I was

Mr

in hopes through the long delay of our Ships to have had the latter too ready in the same manner, but a long sickness to my Amanuensis, and many other Subsequent Impediments have made it impracticable; But you may please to assure the Society of my care and Endeavours to have them done and sent them with all speed that a Work of such a Nature admits of, it being absolutely necessary to be wrote not only with leisure and with the greatest Care, but to have it examin'd Sheet by Sheet, and when the whole is done, to have it compar'd with the Original to obviate as much as may be the Objections of the Romanists, who are of themselves too forward to make them, it not being their Interest to have such a Book in the hands of the Common People, and least of all by means of the Church of England, whom they have so long and so much endeavour'd to blacken and misrepresent.

And thus as I am willing to give up for the Publick Good the Expence and Fatigue of so many years as I have labour'd on this Work, I hope the Society will not refuse me the only request which I shall make them, which is, that no publick mention be made of my Name on any Account whatsoever, either at the presenting the Books or afterwards, because it is inconsistent with my first Intentions when I undertook the Work, and may be injurious to the Work it self, which will probably appear and opperate with more Success, if the Names of every one concern'd in it, and even the place where it is printed, remain unknown to the Publick. Thus much I needed not to have said had not the Revd Mr. Lisle exceeded the Duty of a Friend in publishing my Name; but since what is done cannot be undone intirely, my request is, that it may at least be something retrieved in the manner I have requested, and from which I cannot recede.

As to the Copies deviating more or less from those that are commonly used in Palestine, you may please to know, that the Version is not New, but only the Old rectified and restored, and in doing them I followed the commonest and best in these Countries, taking for the Psalter one which the Greek Patriarch printed, but I alter'd nothing in the Text, only for use as well as Ornament, I caus'd it to be written in two Columns and distinguish'd into Verses, and added the Scripturae Quotations in the Margent as they stand in Our 4to Bibles and from Diodati's Italian Edition in 1607. the Argument of the whole & of every particular Psalm; and when the Patriarch seeing that, revis'd his own Edition by the Polyglott and corrected several places, which the first Editor had rendered not over accurately, I caus'd a Copy to be drawn out with the Septuagint in one Column, and his corrected Edition of the Arabick in the other, intending to have printed one so in Folio for the use of the Greek Church here, but the Patriarch diswading me from it, I intend to send you that which I have by me,

and

and the Patriarchs Arabick Edition both with and without the Corrections. And as for the New Testament I follow'd the Polyglott, the Patriarch having at my request compar'd it with the Original, and afterwards a Marionite Father did the same by the Vulgar Latin rectifying what ever requir'd it; And the Acts of the Apostles and the first Epistle of St. Peter and the Revelations being too deficient, I prevail'd on the Goodness of the Patriarch to translate the two former anew, and the last was done very accurately to my hand by the above mention'd Marionite Father. This Method I chiefly used, that the Clergy here might look upon the Work as their own when it should become Publick; And that the Work might have as little Novelty as possible in the Language, I compard the whole again with the Polyglott, and when ever they had used any New Words, where the old ones would serve, I restor'd them again.

As for the Annotations in the Margin of the New Testament I was chiefly induced to add them, because I have seen the Obscurity of the Holy Scriptures us'd by the Romish Writers as an Argument to dissuade Christians from reading them, and that they are too hard to be understood. They are collected partly from St. Chrisostom and a famous Coptick Author, Ebn Assaily, and partly from the the most Eminent Commentators of our own and other reformed Churches, and I have us'd great care not only to have them short and clear, but to have nothing said in them but what is as plainly said in the Text; And in the controverted places between us and the Romish Church, the considular Texts from other places of Holy Writt are put in the Margin instead of an Explanation in Words, as the best and only way to open the Eyes of our Fellow Christians, and induce them to judge of every thing relating to the Christian Religion by what they find of it in the Words of our Blessed Saviour Christ and his Holy Apostles.

23 I have ready to send you the present Greek Patriarchs Edition of the four Gospels, and would send you also the rest of the New Testament in Arabick, but they have no intire Copy of it in their Church, what they use there being only a Collection of the proper Lessons out of the Epistles and Gospels for the several Festivals, and in such Order only as the Festivals fall, and not as they stand in the Canon of the New Testament: so that whoever has the Incumbence of Examing the Copies which I shall send you, must compare the Psalter by the Septuagint, and the New Testament by the Polyglott, and where they differ must determine by the Original.

As to procuring any Publick Attestation from the Greek Patriarch to this Work, he is a Man of so cautious a temper, that it will be difficult to get any thing under his hand, tho' he wishes well to the Work it self, and the Psalter is his own, and the New Testament was first of all compard by himself, and in consequence of that he formerly promis'd me to set his hand to it; because the Romanists having lately caus'd him some trouble among his Flock, he don't care to do any thing that may look like declaring against them, till by other Methods, which he is about, he has quieted the Disorders in his own Church; and for that reason it probably is, that when I lately claimed his promise he something declined it, and perswaded me it was needless, but on my urging to him the Satisfaction it would give to all Natives, who not understanding the Origin might be abused by the Missionaries, to think it was not Genuin, and be a greater Motive in England to print it, and send it hither for him to

give

give away among his Flock, he promis'd he would again read it over, when he was at Leisure; And to induce him the sooner to be so, I carried it to the Syrian Bishop a Prelate of singular Merit, whom the Reverend Mr. Lisle knows very well, and he having perus'd it, promis'd me not only to carry it himself to the Patriarch, but to offer him to sign it with him.

As to the printing the Decalogue for the reasons you mention, you may please to know, that for those very same reasons I had, long before your Letter arriv'd, added it to both my Copies of the Psalter and New Testament taking it from the Roman Edition of the Bible in Arabick and Latin in 1621. to shew the Christians here, that the Church of Rome handles the Word of God deceitfully in printing the Decalogue mutilated, as they all do, in their Catechisms, and other Books of Devotion.

As to the Ways of these Countries, and which of them we esteem best the Reverend Mr. Lisle who has travelled them much more than I have, can best give you the Satisfaction you desire, so I won't pretend to say any thing of my self in a Subject which I own I am too little versed in; Nor shall I presume to add any thing to a Letter, that is already too long of it self, but my hearty Prayers for Success to all the Christian Undertakings of the Society, and for health and happiness to you Sir, that with so much Advantage to the Publick and Honour to your self, bear so large a Share in the heat and burthen of the day, and Subscribe my self with much Respect

Hon.d Sr.

Your most humble Servant,

Rowland Sherman.

E. R. Lynn.

To Mr. Newman.

Hon.d Sir,

Aleppo. 6.th June 1724.

I have been favour'd with two of Your obliging Letters, one of the 21.st June, and the 14.th of Janu.y with the enclosed Specimen of the Arab. Letters, which the Society intend to use in Printing the Psalter and New Testament, which the Rev.d Dr. Lisle had presented to the Society; and I should not have delay'd so long to have

answer'd

answerd them to yourself directly, had not a Letter to me, from the same Rev.d Person, given me Occasion to write him both my Sentiments about the Form and Size of those Letters and my Desires about the Sizes of the Edition and the Manner of Printing them, and by that Means in some Measure done it already, and so left me now little more to do than to return You my humble Thanks for the Honour the Society has done me, and to pray You to assure them of my humble Respects, and my hearty Readiness to assist in any thing to promote their Charitable Intentions for the Benefit of Our Fellow Christians in these Parts.

I am heartily glad to see the extraordinary Character you give of the Abilities of the Learned M.r Dadichi, and much more so that the Rev.d Dr. Lisle writes me the Society have found two Clergymen to be Supervisors of his Performance; and in that Manner he may be of singular Use in translating several Practical Books from English into Arabick, which will be of great Benefit to the Christians of these Parts.

I remain with much Respect

Hon.d Sir,

Your most humble Servant

Rowland Sherman

Rec.d 2. C.

To M.r Newman.

Hon.d Sir,

Aleppo 10.th Aug.t 1724.

The last Letter which I had the Honour to write You, was dated the 6.th of June by our Ships, and I hope it won't be long ere it arrives your Hands. I have now to return You my humble Thanks for the Letter which You was pleas'd to write me the 9.th of June with the two enclosed Specimens of the Society's Psalter in Arabick, in which I am sorry to see they have rather chosen in the Form of Printing to follow the Roman Edition of the Bible in Latin and Arabick in 1671. than that much more neat and beautiful one of the Cambridge Quarto Bible in 1683. from which the Form of both the Manuscript Arab. Copies of the Psalter and New Testament, sent the Society was taken; and in the same Manner as to the setting the Figures of the Verses within the respective Line, and printing every Leaf in a double Column, was the New Testament in Vulgar Greek printed in London in 1703. For by the Figures in this Edition of the Society's being put without the Line, too much of the Margin is lost, and that, I suppose forc'd them on the Method of removing the Scriptural Quotations from their proper and usual Place in the Margin, down to the Bottom of the Page.

My Hopes indeed were that the Society would have printed both the Folio's and the Octavo Copies of the Psalter and the New Testament in the very same Size and

Manner

Manner as the Manuscript Copies were sent them, and not to have seen both of them in such an Octavo, as You have sent the Specimens in; because the Folio Size is much more graceful, and proper for the Use of Churches and Houses. About all which the Rev. Dr. Lisle and Mr. Soley having been pleased to acquaint me, that the Society desired to know my Sentiments, I wrote them amply the 16th. March by Way of Marseilles, and sent Copies of my Letter the same Day by Way of Stambole; but by the Forwardness the Society are in with the Psalter, 'tis evident that they did not allow Time any thing sufficient for Letters to go and come to and from Places so far distant before they set about their Work; However, tho' my Letter will be too late for the Psalter, I hope it will be time enough for the New Testament in both Sizes, and that the Society will print each of them just in the very same Size and Manner as the Manuscript Copies were written in, without any Variation or Mutilation: and I should very willingly and faithfully have requested the Venerable Patriark Athanasius's Sentiments, and sent You them, had he been now alive, but He departed this Life to a better the 24th. of last Month.

As to the Notes in the Margin of the New Testament, which, contrary to my Expectations, have caus'd such Variety of Opinions in your Debates, and one of them, which is the last, a very extraordinary One, I acquainted You in the Letter, which I had the Honour to write You the 29th. of Dec. 1721. of the Necessity of adding them, and what Caution was used in Collecting them, and particularly in putting only the consimilar Texts of the Holy Scripture instead of Notes in the controverted Points and Places, that all Sects of Christians might be benefitted by them, and none of them have the least Cause of just Complaint; and I had the whole carefully examined by the present Syrian Patriark, and also by one of his Clergy separately, and they, each of them, not only approved of every thing, but honour'd the Performance with Praises which it becomes not me to repeat; and the former offer'd the Greek Patriark to sign the Book with him; but He, being then setting out for Stambole, had not time to peruse it, and the Book was sent away to the Society before he came back.

As to the Letters in which the New Testament ought to be printed, to set it out as such a Work deserves, You'll see, Sir, there is an evident Necessity of three Sorts; One, the Capitals for their respective Places; the Second, a Larger Sort of the Common Character for the Text, such as our Folio Bibles are printed in; and the Last, a Small One for the Marginal Notes. You'll see, Sir, likewise, that in such Places of the Text or Notes as had any particular Stress or Energy in the Words, or were Quotations from other Parts of the Holy Scripture and which should have been noted in a different Character, If I had had Writers able and versed in such Ways of Writing, I have for Want of such Writers mark'd them in Red Ink in Pain Colour, and I request that You cause the Print to be done in the same Manner, and the Beauty of the Colour be kept up and that the Marginal Quotations of the Holy Scripture may be put in their proper Places, and as near over against the Text as may be, and that the Figures relating to the Chapters and Verses may be put as in my Manuscript Copies, and not reversed as in the Specimens of the Psalter, which You was pleased to send me.

As to

As to the Society's sending out the Psalter by the first Opportunity after they're ready, The Levant Company's next 6th Ships will be Time enough, and for the Binding, Leather, I believe, will be better than Vellum, because it keeps cleaner: But the Binding and Sewing must be very strong, and the Covers substantial, because the Heats of this Climate makes them so apt to warp.

I have nothing further to add but my hearty Prayers to Almighty God to direct and prosper the Charitable Intentions of the Society in General; and in particular to grant yourself all imaginable Happiness, and assure You of my own Readiness to assist You in any thing within my Power, being with much Respect

Hon.d Sir,

Your most humble Serv.t

Rowland Sherman

This Letter I sent by Way of Stamboles, and in a few Days I intend, God willing, to send you it's Copy by Way of Marseilles.

Ex.d L. C.

To Mr. Newman.

Hon.d Sir,

Aleppo 5.th Febry 1724/5.

I have not had the Honour to hear from You since I wrote You my last Letter of the 10.th of August, and sent several Copies of it by different Ways; However, We having now a Ship on Departure for London direct, I cannot be wanting to improve so favourable an Opportunity to pay You my Respects and assure You of my incessant Wishes for the Prosperity and Happiness of the Society in General, and Yourself in particular. We expect two Ships from London to Scanderoon in about 20.t or 30. Days at most, and by them I hope to receive the Society's Benefaction, at least of the Psalter, if not of the New Testament too; and, if I do, You may depend on my Care to distribute the Edition among Our Fellow Christians, so, as may best answer the Society's Charitable Intentions.

Athanasius, the Venerable Patriark of Antioch, departed this Life for a better the 24.th of July, and his Successour, the Venerable Sylvester, formerly Deacon to the Deceas'd, did me the Honour to acquaint me of his Election to the Chair of Antioch by the Synod at Constantinople, in a Letter of his dated the 23.d of October. I had the Happiness to know him here in his private Capacity, and there's good Ground to hope, the Church here will be very happy in him. I remain, with much Respect,

Hon.d Sir, Your most humble Serv.t

Rowland Sherman

Ex.d L. C.

To Mr. Newman Aleppo
20. April. 1725
By way of Marseilles

Hon.d Sir,

N.o 8449.

The last time I had the Honour to pay you my Respects, was on the 10th. August last, when I answer'd your Favour of the 9th June; and the 24th. of the same Month of August I receiv'd the Copy of that Letter, and the 5th. instant several of your Letters together, 24th Decemb.r 24th D.o and Copy of the 23d D.o whose original is wanting; and 9th and 13th January by the Levant Comp.a Ships; And the 16th D.o I recd the 3. Chests of Books in very good Condition, only the inferior Sort wants two, unless my Servant counted them wrong. I have placed them all together in a convenient Repository, where I intend to keep them, till the Arrival of the present great Patriarch of Antioch Silvester, and then, since the Society have been pleas'd to leave the Disposal of them to me, I intend to do it chiefly, by his, and the Syrian Patriarch's Hand. This latter, who has been absent some years, being lately come hither, and they both of them well deserve that piece of Respect in Regard to their Piety and Readiness to promote true Christian Knowledge. To the former, indeed, it is in some Sort a Debt, the Psalter being only a Reedition of that put out by his Predecessor. The Edition it self is very neat, but it would have been much more so, had the Society been pleas'd to have follow'd the Form of the Manuscript Copyes; and more useful, if they had not left out the Treatise of St. Gregory Nyssenus, as I see they have. The Paper of the 1400. small Psalters is too thinn the Letters appearing many times quite thro'. I have not had time yet to examine the 3. Several Sorts for any Errata of the Press, but, casting my Eye on them casually at the Conclusion, I find there's wanting in the Word Kitabo or Book, the Stroke at the Top of the Letter, wch distinguishes the Kaf from Lam; but I'll supply that small Omission my self before they are given out; and I request only that more Care may be had in what relates to the Testament because such an Error could never have happend, had the Correctors look'd over, as they are supposd to do, every first Sheet, as it comes out of the Press. As to the whole the Number is large, but I wish the Society had printed 500. less, rather than not have printed the rest without St. Gregory's Treatise, and those which are intended for the Churches, in a large 8vo instead of a Folio: However since what is done cannot be undone, I request that 200. Copyes more may be printed in Folio, and in the very same Manner, as the Manuscript is, that is, in 2. Columnes, and the Figures of the Verses within the Line, and the Scripturall Quotations in the Margin, over against the proper Place, and not below, as in the Copyes already printed, and St. Gregory's Treatise added to them all, and the Paper to be very thick and the Covers to be black with some small matter of Ornament, as is generaly used in our large Church Bibles, and sent out with the New Testam.t Copyes; and that those Copies of the New Testament may be exactly the same with the MSS. Copyes in every Thing.

In a Letter of the 4th May 1723. to the Revd Dr Lisle, I sent him a Paper of some Errata which I had found out in the Manuscript of the N. T. and pray'd him that they might be notified to the Gentlemen, that had the Care of the Press, that they might be corrected; but not finding any mention of it in his Letters, I send you a Copy of it.

In the

In the Copy of your Favour of 23d. Decemb. you are pleas'd to own the Receipt of my Letters of the 6. June and 10th. August; but I perceive by your Answer to them, and by what Dr. Lisle and the Revd. Mr. Bedford are pleas'd to write me, the Society understood them to relate only to the Marginal Annotations, whereas I intended them for the your Satisfaction in the Vowels and Orthographical Marks likewise, and that nothing more or less should be in the Printed than in the Manuscript Copyes, and I humbly think the Words of my Letter ——— and that the Society will print them just in the very same Size, an Manner as the MSS. Copyes were written in, without any Variation or Mutilation ——— import as much; but since it was thought otherwise, and has caus'd such a Detardment in the Work, I wish I had expres'd my self plainer. I perceive by the Revd. Mr. Bedford's Letter, that the Printing the N.T. in the Manner which I recommended, with a treble Set of Letters, and 2 Sorts of Ink, will cause not only Difficulty, but something of extraordinary Expence in the Work, and that that may incline the Society to do it in a lesser Degree of Perfection, but, since I have so readily give up the Expence, as well as Pains, of so many Years in bringing it to that Perfection, I hope so large a Body, as the Society, wont be wanting on their Parts, and that, rather than publish it in any other Manner, they'l either stay some longer Time, till they have increas'd their Fund, or print 500, or 1000 Copies less, and so by that Means save the extraordinary Expence of the Edition.

In the Letter which I had the Honour to write you the 5th. Febry by the Happy Returne, I acquainted you, that the Venerable Silvester, formerly Deacon to the decas'd Patriarch Athanasius, was elected in his Stead. He is not yet come hither, because the Missionaries of Rome, and their perverted Proselytes having set up a Pseudo-Patriarch against him at Damascus, who absconded and fled to the Mountains of the Druses on the Grand Viziers sending a Commission to take him up, he's willing to see the Business ended before he leaves Constantinople.

I don't believe the Patriarch of Antioch maintains a Correspondence with the Christians of St. Thomas; with the Georgians he does, because at their first Conversion to Christianity having wrote to the Greek Emperor at Constantinople, to send them some Persons to instruct them, he order'd the Patriarch of Antioch to do it, so they are reckon'd to be of his See. The Patriarch Meletius went thither, as I have seen in the Book he publish'd of his Voyage, and their Manners and Customs, and the State of Religion there; but since him the Patriarchs only now & then send a Deacon to collect their Perquisits.

As to the Faults in the Edition of the Psalter, which you're pleas'd to desire me to notify to You, that they may be amended in the N.T. you see I have already done it, and I need not add any thing more in any Respect, only my Request that Nothing may be varyed from the MSS. Copyes, unless you think fit to print a smale Number of the Folio, with all the Vowels & the Orthographicae Marks, and leave all the rest of the Edition both Folios, and Octavos, just as they are in the Manuscript Copyes; and that will reconcile that Difference between the Revd. Mr. Bedford and Mr. Dadiky; they were pleas'd to do me the Honour to refer the Decision of their Sentiments to me, but I thought it too assuming to pretend to judge between Persons so much my Superiours, and that I should do much better by laying both their Letters before the Revd. Pietro de Oliva, who taught me in my Youth that Tiele, that I know in the Arabick Tongue, and he with great Readiness undertook it, and herewith you have his Answer in his own Hand Writing, as directed to the Society. About a Week hence I'le do my self the Honour to write to you again by Way of Leghorn and if I have omitted any Thing now in my

in my Answer to your Letters, ample Amends shall be made you with all
Respect by &c.

P.S. Hon.d Sir, Aleppo 29th April 1725.

N.o 8449.

The precedent Lines of the 20th instant are a Copy of my last which I had the Honour to write you by Way of Marseilles, and this I intend you by way of Livorne, both to convey the above Copy to you, and to compleat what the Original was deficient in to a just Answer to your several Favours, which I then owned the Receipt of.

You may please therefore to know that having found one small Error in the End of some of the Books of the Psalms, I set my Amanuensis, lest there should be more, and of greater Import, to compare the whole by a Manuscript Copy, which I long since gave him, and he has found some. I have order'd him to keep a Catalogue of the Page and Line of every Fault, and to amend them with his pencel, and when that is done I'll take Care to send you a Copy of it. And I again earnestly request you to recommend to the Gentlemen Correctors to use their utmost Care to view every Sheet of the N. T. as it comes from the Press, that the Edition may come out with that Exactness, which such a Work deserves. I have now returned Thanks to Mr. Eaton for his Care in putting the 3 Chests of Books aboard the Hallifax and Wentworth, and I shall do the like to the 2 Captains, when I see them, for their Civility in bringing them Freight free.

In my last I sent you a Lre from the Rev.d Pietro de Oliva who is the Iconomus of the Maronite Nation, and was formerly my Arabick Master and herewith I send you a Copy of it; either of them coming safely to your Hands will be abundantly sufficient to determine between the Rev.d Mr. Bedford and Mr. Dadichy about the Vowels & Orthographical Marks. But the former having been pleas'd in the Letter which he did me the Favour to write me dated 12th January, to allege two Difficultyes against printing the Edition of the N. T. with the Marginal Notes over against the Place refer'd to, and with two Sorts of Ink; the former from the Liberty which the Writer may now and then take in using more or less of the Margin as his Fancy directs him; which a Printer cannot do being tyed to a fixt Rule. In Answer to which you may please to acquaint him that by the Method us'd in this Country the Writer is as much tyed up to a fixt Rule as the Printer with you is; for the Way is this; when any one intends to have a Book wrote, and declares what Size he'll have it of, the Writer makes a Pattern of Pastboard, and the Margin and Lines of each Page are mark'd out with Thread; and every Sheet he writes he rubs with his Finger on that Pattern, and it at once makes out every Thing as well as if done with a Ruler and Pencil, and makes the whole so regular, that in the largest Book there is not the least Difference whatever. The other is from the Danger that may happen of spoiling when they come to print the Backside of the Leaf; but as that is dayly seen remedyed by a little more Care and Patience in Books of the meanest Value, I hope it wont be denyed to this, which is of the greatest; and the Cleanness wch such a Method will give to the Energy of particular Words & Sentences well deserves it. The new Casting of a 3d Sett of Letters small enough to be us'd for the Marginal Notes, so as to make them of a proportionate Size less than the Text, is indeed something of Addition to the Expence; but the Society having had the Charity to give so much in the other Parts of the Edition, I perswade my self they will not grudge so small an Addition, when

they

they see it is not only ornamental, but necessary; nor would I press it upon them, did I not think it absolutely so.

I request you to do me the Favour to give my Respects to the Revd Mr Bedford & Mr Dadichy, and thank them respectively for their Letters of the 12th January which I'll answer particularly by the Return of the Ships: And to the former, be pleas'd to add my Thanks for his Kind Present of his Book of the Temple Musick, which I promise my self great Pleasure in Reading; and since he's pleas'd to desire it, I shall take the Freedom to give him my Sentiments on it: And in the Interim I wish all imaginable Happiness and Prosperity to the Society in general, and to your self in particular, & remain with much Respect

Hond Sir,

Your most humble Servant

Rowland Sherman.

I have already acquainted you how I intend to dispose of the Society's Benefaction, that is, to do it chiefly by means of the Greek & Syrian Patriarchs; and if they or any of their respective Bpts intimate any Thing to me about the Books, or any others, it shall be my care to acquaint you. I have some Time since acquainted the Revd Mr Soley that the Greek Patriarch intends to open several Schools when he comes here, and in particular one for the Greek Language, and to that End will bring along with him 2 Didascalor — from Constantinople; and I took the Freedom to add my own Thoughts, that if the Society should please to present him with a Sett of all the Greek Fathers it would be a charity well plac'd, and a noble Beginning to a Publick Library, which they very much want in the Patriarchall Seat here, and nothing will so effectualy open their Eyes, as shewing them what their own Fathers say of the Xtian Religion

R: S.

Ex: E. E.

Copy of a Letter from the Reverend Pietro de Oliva at Aleppo being in Answer to Mr: Bedford's and Mr: Dadichis Letters in January last: enclosed in the foregoing Letter from Mr: Sherman.

Honoratissimi Domini,

Alepi Die 22 Aprilis 1725.

Vestras Epistolas sub die 22. Januarii decurrentis Anni datas accepi. Die 5 Aprilis, quas cum perlegerim, multo perfusus sum Gaudio, quod Novi Testamenti Arabicè imprimendi pro communi Orientalium bono, sit Vobis commissa Solicitudo. Quod attinet ad Methodum Editionis, quod mihi arridet, brevibus explico. 1. Nequaquam omittantur omnes Vocales et grammaticales Notæ, ne eo Decore, quod vilioribus quibusque Libellis non denegatur, sacratissima omnium Pagina exuatur. 2. At Omnes Notas et Vocales, quæ Arabico Idiomati, ex quibusdam Grammaticorum Censuris, arcto Conatu adjecerunt, ad unam inserere, nullatenus permittatur, cum improbus hujusmodi Labor nullius Utilitatis esse possit Orientalibus tum Populis tum Clero, quippe quod nullibi et nunquam iis uti solent. Si facile obtineri possint

possint segregatim cuntim Exemplaria accuratissime totis omnino Arabismo Adjunctis adornata, non dissuadeo, siquidem Dei Verbo Nitorem et Fulgorem apud Vulgi Mentem suppeditat, infidelis autem de hisce sese gloriantibus Silentium indicit, et iis doctioribus fidelibus, quis etsi paucissimi sunt, eadem grato Palato degustant, multiplicem affert Latitiam. 3. Quæ ad planam Vocum Enunciationem, ad claram Distinctionem, et periodorum Elucidationem concernunt, procul dubio ingerenda sunt. Per **Damma** distinguatur passivum Verbum, ut كُتِبَ et participium, ut مُكْرِمٌ a مُكْرِمٌ per Vocales. **Tanuin** adiciatur Accusativo desinenti in Alef كِتَابًا, et cæteræ Nunnationes adjungantur ubicunque exigit Periodi Harmonia. **Tesdid** supponatur semper. **Hamza** exhibeatur pro Distinctione, ut مُرَاءَاة a شَيْءٌ aliquid a شَيْءٌ affatio, et pro Emphasi ut غَنَاءٌ. **Madda** adhibenda pro Distinctione, ut آلَةٌ Speculum. آلَةٌ Ostensorium سَآءَ Fœditas a سُوْءٌ æqualis; et cum Alef protrahenda venit in syllabis. **Geasm** distinguat maxime in Secundis ut مَنْ a مَنْ Frigus, a مَنْ. Grando **Vasla** supponatur sedulo, ut tollatur communis Abusus Orientalium fere omnium legendi adverbia disjuncta ab الـ subsequente contra consuetum legendi Modum v.g. فِي الْبَيْتِ fi elbait, legenda cum Vasla filbait.

Tandem habentur plures Editiones, Leida, Roma, Medicea &c.ª Seligatur quod Vulgo, redigue Nobi primum, tum Ecclesiis celebrioribus, ac Cœtibus illustrioribus sit maximo Emolumento.

Valete.

Exam: in Yp. L. C.

The Translation of the foregoing Letter.

Most Hon.d Sirs,

Aleppo 22.d April 1725.

I received Yo.rs of y.e 22.d of January last y.e 5.th Curr.t and it gave me a great Deal of pleasure to find You so intent upon an Impression of the New Testament in Arabick, for the common Good of all the East. I will, therefore, in a few Words, give You my Thoughts as to the Method of the Edition.

1. To omitt all the Vowels and Grammatical Notes, would be to deprive the most Holy Scriptures of that Perfection, which is bestow'd upon many Tracts of an insignificant Value.

2. On the other Hand, to insert all those Notes and Vowells, which, in the Opinion of some Grammarians, may, in a strict Sense, belong to the Arabick Language, would be great Pains to little Purpose; since they are never, all of them, made Use of, either by the Clergy or Laity of the East. But still, if only 100. Copies could easily be printed by themselves, with all those Notes and Marks, I am by no Means against it: For it would please the Common People to see the Word of GOD in it's Perfection and Beauty; it would silence the Infidels, who make their Boast of having all these Marks and Notes in their Books; and it would give a great Deal of Satisfaction to the few Learned Christians, who understand these Notes very well.

3. It is certain

3. It is certain that such of these Notes as are of Use to a plain Pronunciation, and clear Distinction of Words, and a good Turn of the Periods, are always to be inserted. 'Tis by a **Damma** the Verb Passive is distinguished as كُتِبَ and the Participle as مَكْتُوبٌ from كَتَبَ by Vowells. **Tannuin** is joind to an Accusative ending with Alef: as بَيْتًا, and the other **Nunnations** must always be used where the Harmony of the Periods requires it. **Tesdid** is always supposd to be useful. **Hamza** is necessary for Distinctions as مُؤَذِّنٌ from مُذَنٌ, شَيْءٌ Something, from شَيٌّ a Rosting. And for Emphatick Words as لَئِنْ Rabby. **Madda** is also proper for Distinction as مَآذِنُ a Watch-Tower; from مَنَارٌ Light or Signs. سَآءَ Filthyness from سَيٌّ Ill. Equal. And with Alef comes to be extended in Syllables. **Giasm** distinguishes chiefly in Words of three Syllables; as مَنْعٌ Prohibition from مَنَعَ to forbid. **Vasla** must be carefully us'd to prevent a Common Abuse, among almost all the Eastern, of reading Adverbs disjoind from the اَلْ following, contrary to the usual Custome of Speaking; as فِي اَلْبَيْتِ fi elbait, but when read with Vasla it is fielbait.

Lastly, I would recommend the Consulting several Editions, as those of Leyden, Rome, the Medicean &c. so as to pick out of each of them whatever may be found useful for the Common People in the first Place, and then for the more celebrated Churches, and illustrious Bodies of Men.

Farewell.

Exc: L. C.

To Mr: Newman.

A Second-Post-script to Mr: Sherman's Letter of y 29th April. Edd. 1st Page. 85.

Aleppo 1st June 1725.

Hon: Sir,

Having had the Honour twice of late, and foregoing 2. Copies of 20th and 29th April being y Transcript of the Originalls, I should have been tender of troubling You again so soon, had it not been to enclose another Copy of the Rev. Pietro de Oliva's Letter about the Vowells and Orthographical Marks for the Edition of the New Testament; and also to acquaint You that in Examining the Errata of the Psalter, I found two which I did not expect, that is in one Book — ten Psalms are twice put, and in another, about as many were misplaced, and bound up wrong: — These two Faults I can easily amend by making my Book-binder take off the Covers, and take out the Supernumerary Sheets, and reinstating the others that are misplaced: The like Care shall be used if I find any others like these, and my Servants are continually at Work in correcting the Errors of the Press, that all the Books may be ready against the Patriarks Coming, which probably may be in three Months at the farthest. Herewith I send You a Copy of the Errata of the Press, which are found in the Books; and I again must humbly request You to recommend to the Gentlemen Supervisors, to use their utmost Diligence and Care to overlook every Sheet as it comes out of the Press, and to correct immediately any Faults that may happen in the Edition of the New Testament, and to overlook the Stationer too, in sitting the Sheets to be bound up: And then I hope every thing will be done as such a Work deserves, and be a lasting Honour to the Society, and answer their — Charitable Intentions in favour of Our Christian Brethren in these parts. I crave Leave to subscribe my self with much Respect.

Hon: Sir, Your most humble Servant

Rowland Sherman.

Some of the Clergy here to whom the Society's Psalters have been shewn, praisd very much the
nes of the Work; but said the Character was too small for any but Young Eyes: which make
again request Your Care that this Fault may be provided against in their Edition of the N
Testament; and that it may be so ordered as to be fit for all Ages of Readers: And that
those that are for the Use of y^e Churches, may be large as our Church Bibles are. D^o R.

To M^r Newman.

Hon^d Sir,

The last time I had the Honour to pay You my Respects was the
1^st June, which I hope may arrive You safely, not having Time now to draw out it's Copy for this
Conveyance with the Return of the Levant Company's Ships, by which I have sent You under
the Care of my worthy Friend, M^r William Kingston, a small Present of a Book of which I
have given the Rev^d M^r Bedford an Account: And if the Society think convenient to
print, and send hither 500. Copies of it, it will be a Charity worthy of their Institution, and
very useful for the Schools here. My Request in this is, as I formerly desired with the
other Books, that no Mention be any Ways made of my Name neither at the Entering the Gift,
nor publishing it. I am, with much Respect,

Hon^d Sir,

Your most humble Servant

Rowland Sherman

Aleppo.
July 3. 1725.

Postscript to the 2. foregoing Letters, in Lieu of Triplicates of them

To M^r Newman.

Aleppo. 21^st July 1725

Hon^d Sir,

0530. I confirm the 2. preceeding Copies of the 1. June & the 3. Instant;
the last being by the Levant Company's Ships wch sailed the 6.^th in the Evening with a fair Wind
God send them a good Voyage. Pray do me the Favour to inform me whether the Society
have any Persons capable of printing in the Armenian Language; and whether they would
extend their Christian Charity and print some small Treatises for them. I am with much
Respect, Hon^d Sir

Your most humble Servant

Rowl^d Sherman

Pray tender my humble Respects to the Rev^d
M^r Bedford, and M^r Padichi and acquaint them
I have wrote to each of them by the Ships R. S.

Domin.o Theocharo Dadichi.

Honorand.mo & Reverend.no
Dom.no Theocharo Dadichi
Vir admodum Rev.do

8529

Literas vestras 12.mo Janij datas die 5.to Aprilis accepi et summâ cum Lætitiâ perlexi, una cum Literis Rev.di Do.mi Bedford de eodem Subjecto: me autem nequaquam dignum duxi Honore, quem mihi offerre dignati estis, judicandi inter vos, a quibus in omni Re Literaria discere mallem, et præsertim in Linguâ Arabicâ, cui nimis tardè, et inter multas Avocationes Operam navare cœpi; quum præterhic Linguam Turcicam acquirere præcipue Studium impendi, et ut illam plus accurate intelligerem, demum ad Arabicæ Linguæ Acquisitionem transire coactus sum. In hoc autem Initio Fortuna summoperè Propitia fuit, quum Rever.dum Dom.m Petrum de Oliva Præceptorem inveni et quum adhuc in Promptu esset, mihi Scopum dedit ut sine ulla Invidia et Censura illum inter Dominat.m v.ri alu.m et Do.mum Bedford Sententiam ferre rogarem. Ipse quoq3 pro sua Eximia Humanitate libenter accepit et perfecit; Ejusq; Literas quas Duo. Newmano mittere curavi procul dubio vidistis Si in re aliqua qualibet aut Dominat.ni v.træ ut ex-Amicis alicui utilis esse possim, summâ pro Felicitate habebo, si mihi Notum facere digneris. Vive et Vale.

Sic precatur Hum.mus Servus.

Rowlandus Sherman.

Aleppo.
3/14. Julij. 1725

To Mr. Bedford.

Rev.d Sir

8489.

The Letter wch you was pleas'd to write me dated y.e 12.th Janry and your Book, which you did me the Favour to Send me, of the Musick of the Jewish Temple, I rec.d the 5.th of April and read them both with pleasure as I did likewise the Letter of Mr. Dadichi at the same time; but I could by no Means accept of the Honor which you both condescended to offer me, of the Deciding the Dispute between you, about putting the Vowels and Other Orthography Marks to the Society's Edition of the New Testament. I have already had the Honor to acquaint you both by Letter to Mr. Secry Newman, that I had judg'd it every Way more proper to lay the Matter before the Rever.d Pietro de Oliva, the Oeconomus of the Maronite Nation, my Old Master, who readily undertook it, and gave me his Answ.r in Latine wch I transmitted with my Letter to Mr. Newman, and doubt not but it will give the desired Content; which in due Time I shall be glad to hear.

Your Book gave me great Delight Reading to find the Produce so much where you had so little to guide You besides the Happiness of your Genius. Among the Authors ye quote I find no Mention of S.t Gregory Nyssenus's Treatise of the Tabr of the Psalms which I caus'd to be translated from the Greek, and added to the Psalter, so I suppose you never found it.

Shall...

I have sent you in Return a small Present, which tho' far from being of equal Value is a Curiosity of anoth.r Sort, being a Specimen of what the Missionaries of Rome and their Proselytes, as the Author is, teach among the Natives instead of the Evangelii Doctrines of our Blessed Saviour and his Holy Apostles. I have sent the Society the Chh Catechism formerly done into Arab. by the Rev.d the then D.r Pocock, and have caus'd it to be new wrote out in the Manner of Bp. Beveridges Explanation of it; if they print 500. Copies of it and send them by the Ships of the next Year, it will be a Charity well bestow'd among the among the Schools with the Patriarch intends to open, that he may teach his Flock the Principles of Xtianity from the Words of our Blessed Saviour Christ himself & those of his Apostles. I would have sent the Society also the Life of S.t Chrisostom done by Geo. the Patriarch of Alexandria, and with being almost spoilt by many ill Transcribers I have caused it to be new done in the Manner of D.r Cave's; but, being willing to have 2. Copies, least one should be lost, it was not possible to have both ready in time for those Ships, but by the next, God willing, it shall be sent. I shall not further enlarge your present Trouble, than with the addition of my most hearty Wishes for your Health & Happiness in all things, & subscribe my self with much Respect.

Rev.d Sir, Your most humble & devoted Serv.t

Aleppo 3. July 1725.

Rowl.d Sherman.

To Mr. Newman. Aleppo — 23 Nov.r 1725.

Honor.d Sir

N.B. vid. pa. 91. for the duplicate of the first part of this Letter.

No 8772.

To the above Lines of the 21. July, which are a Copy of what I had the Honor to write you last, I have now to add my Thanks for your obliging Letters of the 9.th and 10.th of June which I receiv'd the 3.d instant by the Reverend Mr. Edwards.

I am very glad you had receiv'd my Letter of the 5.th Febry, and I have in my former Letters of 20.th and 29.th April acquainted you both of my Receipt of the Psalters and how I found the Edition, and how I intend to dispose of it, and what else was necessary to add in respect of the Printing both some more of them and also the Edition of the New Testament, so that supposing them to be long since arriv'd you, I shall only touch such Things as were not in your former Letters. The first of which is the Difficulty and Inconveniences which the Printer finds in printing Arabick which don't occurr in the printing the European Languages, which no Way to be admired at, every Thing new having something Troublesome, which with Practice wears away, and we see that at Amsterdam, Venice & Rome, every Thing of that Nature is become familiar enough; and as to the Gust of the Orientals in those Particulars, the Reverend Mr. Padichi being a Native of this Place, can direct the Printer sufficiently.

As to the Joining some Words in red Letters, I am very well satisfy'd that it is a great Addition both to the Trouble and Expence of the Work, but to that I can only say that the Work well deserves it, and as I have seen it often done in Books of the meanest Value, I hope it won't be thought too much to be added to this, which is beyond all Comparison the greatest. As to the different Sizes of the Letters in which the Edition is to be printed, it is Evident at first Sight that the Casting of a treble Sett is absolutely necessary, and the Society need take no other Trouble than to view the Size of the Book before them; and if it seems too much to put the Annotations to the 8.vo Volume you may print them only in the 12.mo Volumes, but by no Means alter the Size of the 8.vo because that would frustrate the Intent of my sending that small Size, that it might be easily portable by such as have Occasion to travel and remove often from Place to Place about their Affairs; but if the Society print both Volumes in the Size of the MS. the Edition will every Way answer their Charitable Intentions, and the Occasions of all Sorts & Ranks of our Christian Brethren in the East: and if the printing the Work in that Manner requires a greater Sum than the Society's Fund will at present admit, I wish they would only print a Lesser Number now, and reserve the rest till the increase of Benefactions gives them Ability suitable to their Good will and that of those whom God inspires to give those Benefactions; and if only half the Number that was at first intended be printed now and the rest afterwards, it will well answer both the Occasion of the Clergy and People here, and no Ways defeat that good Work with the Benefactors but rather enlarge it by putting out the Edition in so much greater Perfection.

I see very plainly that the privacy which I took the Freedom to advise that the Work might be done with, could not be observ'd, by Reason of the Expence of it and the Necessity of getting more Help, and I esteem it as a propitious Omen of the Society's Success in the Way they have pitch'd on, that the Bps so unanimously concurr'd to recommend it; God grant it may prove accordingly. The Directions which you desir'd about the Orthographical Marks

Marks I sent you the 20th April in a Letter of the Revd Pietro de Oliva, and sent two or three Copyes of it in my following Letters; so that I need add nothing more here, than that the Revd Mr Dadichi can inform you that the want of those Marks is far from rendring the Work useless; these being seldom or never put in Books and Papers of the most common Use, as you may see how seldom they are put in the Copyes which I sent you both of the Psalter and New Testament. And for the Distance of the Lines, you need only observe the Distance of the Copies, and by making the Orthographical Marks small no Room need be lost.

The Venerable Silvester the present Greek Patriarch of Antioch entred this Town the 30th of October, and some Dayes after that the Publick Ceremonies and Visits were over, I sent him about 1500 Psalters, and acquainted him with the Society's further charitable Intention towards his Flock and the rest of our Christian Brethren in these Eastern Parts, with which he seemd highly pleased, and added many Benedictions to the Society. I requested him to send a part to the Syrian Patriarch, and he would have had me have sent it him, but on my saying in the Eyes of all the Natives it would look better from his Hand, he acquiesced and said he would do it, and the rest he would give with his own Hand in the Progress he was shortly to make through the adjacent Parts of his Sea, and send the rest to the Parts more remote. He has begun a great Reforme among his Clergy, and opened a large School near the Patriarcal Convent for teaching both Greek and Arabick, designing that all that are designed for the Sacred Function shall learn the Former, that they may be able to learn the Doctrine of the Greek Church from her own Fathers and in their own Language; and by this you may imagine, Sir, how welcome it will be, if the Society present him for this School a Sett of all the Greek Fathers, as I took the Freedom to intimate to you in my Letter of 29 April last. This Patriarch is young being not above 35, but it is the greater Blessing of God upon these Eastern Churches, he having a large Field but overrun with Tares, which have been sown from many Ages past when Jerusalem and Constantinople fell into the Hands of the Latines and the Romish Missionaries ever since, like the Servants of the Enemy, have been continuing and increasing them; but if it please God to continue this Patriarch in the See, he'll weed them out, he being every way qualify'd both to bear and go through all the Difficulties of such a Work, and has begun it in Way suitable both to his Piety and his Prudence: God send the Success may be accordingly.

I thank you for the Present you was pleased to send me of the little Book; but, observing that the Society prints the Letters sent to them, I request you not to publish any Thing either of mine, or any Thing relating to them, because it may in many Respects be inconsistent with the Society's Design in favour of our Christian Brethren in these Parts, and awaken the Emissaries of Rome to use greater Efforts to prevent it. I have sent you by this Ship, the St George, a present of a Book which I have met with here, the Life of St Chrisostom, done by George Patriarch of Alexandria, and done into Arabick long since but I know not by whom. I need say nothing more of it here having done it by the last Ships to the Reverend Mr Bedford, but that it will be a Charity well bestow'd if the Society will print and send out hither 600, or 800 Copies of it, and that I request no mention be made of my Name either at the Entring the Book in your Records, or printing it. Pray tender my most humble Respects to the Revd Mr Bedford and Mr Dadichi, and permit me to subscribe my self with much Respect

Hond Sir, Your most humble servant

Rowland Sherman.

H N. is the Mark of the Book which I have sent you, and Mr Wm Kingston will take the Trouble of bringing it to you free from all Charge

D. R.S. G. R.S. J.R.

To Mr Newman.

Aleppo. 10th Dec. 1725.
Sent to go by S.t George, but too late

Hond.r Sir,

N.B. The duplicate of Lre. 23. Nov.r in pa. 94. sent along with these ...

I had the Honour to write to You the 23.d Nov.r by the S.t George, and it being probable that She may be still in Port, I send this Letter at a Venture to acquaint you that the Happy Return arrivd in Scanderoon the 1.st instant, and the Princess Amalia the —, and the 8.th I receivd your Favours of the 5.th and 5.th of Oct.r and inclos'd in them the Receipt of 2. Chests of Psalters of the Society's Benefaction. Two Chests more of them I see ..... are put upon the Princess Amalia without a Receipt by the Pursers Humour in refusing to give one; But it imports not, for those will be as well deliver'd as the others, and when they come into my Custody, you may please to depend on my Care of them all. But my greatest concern at Present, is least these should have the same Errata as the former; and indeed it is something of Mortification to see You take no Notice of the long Trouble wch I wrote you I had in Correcting the others, tho' you own the Receipt of my Lre, and yet poor down a new Supply of the same Trouble upon me. If it proves so, they must ly long by; for I cannot now spare the Attendance of my Servants, as I did before to correct them; and to give them out uncorrected, would give too much matter of Reflections. The Gentlemen Correctors of the Press I hope will take more Care of the N. Testam.t or otherwise they had better never meddle with it. I shall not enlarge your present Trouble further than with the Tenders of my Respects at — — — — — —

Aleppo. 7.th March. 1725/6.
By the Princess Amalia.

Hon.d Sir,

8890.

The latter of the 2. preceeding Copies of the 23.d Nov.r and 10.th Decemb.r came too late for S.t George, so I believe it proceeds now by this Conveyance of the Levant Compa.s Ships the Happy Return and Princess Amalia. They deliver'd you 4. Chests in very good Order, as to any thing from them; but in a very ill one as to the Correctors of the Press, the Books being full of the very same Faults as the former, as to my no small Mortification I found upon opening the Chests. I very earnestly request you, to remedy it in the Edition of the N. Testam.t, or not to engage in it. I am with much Respect.

If you send some more of Grotius's Book de Veritate Religionis Christianæ, they will be acceptable.

Aleppo. 7.th March. 1725/6.

Honor.d Sir,

8890.

I confirm the 2. preceeding Copies of the 23.d Nov.r 10.th Dec.r and 7.th inst.t; and having now another Opportunity of paying my Respects by a French Barke bound from Scanderoon to Marselles, I the more willingly improve it that I may

I may omitt no Opportunity of exciting your Care of the Edition of the New Testament, to obviate the Faults of the Edition of the Batter. I shall attend at your Leisure, your Answer to my Letter of the 21st of July; and in the Interim wishing all imaginable Happiness to the Society in Genera[l] and to your self in particular, I remain with much Respect,

Hon[d] Sir, Your most humble servant,

Rowland Shermard

To M[r] Newman. du Strand ce 8. Juillet 1726.

Monsieur,

Je suis au desespoir de me Voire en une Necessité absolue de ne pas vous complaire et de ne pas vous tenir ma parolle, mon honneur & ma conscience m'y obligent. J'ay tenté de vous plaire, mais j'ay trouvé tant de choses changees sans necessité & qui ne manqueront pas d'offenser les oreilles accoûtumées à entendre un Langage plus simple moins affecté, plus intelligible & qui par son Antiquité a dejà acquis une espece d'Authenticité.

Plus l'Autheur a voulu paroitre scavant dans la langue Arabe & plus il s'est barbouillé. Son soin trop Scrupuleux de s'attacher au Texte Grec lui a fait changer les Nombres malgré l'exigence & la propriété de la Langue, et de renverser les Noms Propres qui ne sont plus entendues dans la terminaison Grecque, comme Simon pour Somaan, Andreas pour Endrawous, & une infinité d'autres. Ses pointilleries dans la Grammaire l'ont fait quelquefois s'égarer. Ses Additions, quoiqu'renfermées entre deux Parentheses, sont souvent sans raison, du moins, de Consequence.

J'aurois pu vous prouver en detail tout ce que je viens de dire par ces deux feuilles mais ce servit nous incommoder tout deux.

J'ay Seulement touché les choses en passant pour me justifier de vous avoir manqué de parolle: et pour vous faire voir que ce n'est pas pour éviter le travail que je vous écris ceci, resolves vous a prendre l'excellente Copie de la Bibliotheque d'Oxford vous me verres m'employer avec toute la Joye et le Courage du Monde. Je suis,

Monsieur,

Votre tres humble & tres obeissant Serviteur,

Salomon Negri.

The Translation of M[r] Negri's Letter (ut supra) Strand 8[th] July 1726.

To M[r] Newman.

Sir,

I am in the utmost Confusion to find my self under an absolute Necessity not to comply with your Desires, nor to keep my Promise, to which my Honour and my Conscience oblige me.

I attempted to fulfill my Promise, but I found Abundance of Things altered without just Occasion, which cannot but be very offensive to Ears accustomed to hear a Language

more simple, less affected, more intelligible, and which by its Antiquity has already acquir'd a kind of Authenticity. [this is the Word in the original]

Besides the Translator where he would seem learned in the Arabick Language has provd to be a meer Scribler. His too scrupulous care in following the Greek Text has made him alter the Numbers against all Propriety of the Language or any Reason requiring it. He has confounded the proper Names, which are not better understood for having the Greek Termination, as Simon for Ιωαναν, Andreas for Ενδραους, and a vast Number of others: His Punctilios in Grammar has sometimes led him quite beside the Sense: His Additions, notwithstanding they are enclosed between two Parenthesis, are often without Reason, or at best of no Consequence.

I could demonstrate to you by a particular Detail all that I have now mentioned from the two Sheets herewith return'd, but that would be disagreeable both to you and me. I have therefore only touched a few Things cursorily to let you see that I was willing to keep my Word: But to convince you that I don't write this to avoid Labour, do but resolve to follow the Excellent Copy in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, you shall see me devote my self in the Word to the Correction of the press, with all the Joy and Courage

Jn

Your most humble Servt

Salomon Negri

Illustrissimæ Societati
de propagando christianismo
institutæ.
Theocharis Dadichi Aleppensis.

Postquam diu multumque disputatum est quâ Formâ, quibus characteribus et signis imprimendum esset Novum Testamentum Arabicum Aleppo missum, et jam tota Conversatio videbatur esse composita, nihilque amplius superesse, nisi ut interrupta opera Typis navaretur; ecce novi Scrupuli de ipso Textu exorti sunt. Agitatur quippe nunc, ut mihi relatum est, utrum Stylus hujus Versionis sit bonus, utrum ea fidelis placiturague Orientalibus, utrum Detorsio Nominum Propriorum ad genuinam Græcæ Linguæ Pronuntiationem accomodata aures aliter assuetas possit offendere, quid denique de totius Operis Successu sperandum timendumve sit; quibus Quæstionibus, quia jussus sum per Epistolam satisfacere, salvo meliori aliorum Judicio hæc dicenda habeo.

Quod ad Stylum attinet, scire oportet duplicem esse Linguam Arabicam, unam vulgarem et quotidiani Sermonis, alteram eruditam et Libris bonæ frugis peculiarem. Prioris quidem proprium est ut non modo pronuntiando atque scribendo Vocales confundat

confundat, et quasdam Literas addat detrahatve, sed etiam plurimas Voces Syriacas Persicas et Turcicas admisceat; at posterior pura semper est, nec Voces adhibet nisi Arabicas, easq; effert et scribit ex regulis Grammaticæ, exceptis tamen ultimis Vocalibus, quas ad aurium lenocinium licet vel addere, et pronuntiare, vel omittere et reticere. Jam vero ita sumus, quotquot Arabice loquimur, comparati, ut quamvis hominem deridcamus, et affectatum nominemus qui erudite et correcte loqui velit; graves tamen Libros et publice legendos, vulgariter scribi legique ferre sine Stomacho non possimus. Hinc est quod Editio Romana totius scripturæ, quam Maronitæ procuraverunt, a paucis legitur, cum ob alias Rationes, quas commemorabo inferius, tum etiam maxime, quia vulgaribus et spurcis Arabismis scatet; at vero Aleppensis Versio ita est pura et tersa, ita etiam clara ac facilis, ut possim recta Conscientia testari eam omnibus Versionibus Arabicis, quas mihi unquam aut legere aut pervolvere contigit, palmam præripere.

2. Neque est quidquam de ejus Fidelitate, atque cum Textu Græco Consonantia dubitandum; nam quando hanc Versionem Typothetis describebam, solebam interdum animi Gratia integra Capita cum Originali Græco conferre; atque semper reperiebam exactam esse Versionem et maxime Literalem, ita ut si una vel altera vox ad Sensus alicujus Complementum addenda erat, omnes ejusmodi Voces rubro Colore exaratæ fuerint; atque sic etiam hoc Nomine aliis antiquioribus Versionibus præferenda est, et procul dubio præferetur, quippe quas sæpe ab originali Græco oberrare multi Critici jam annotarunt.

3. Si quid tamen est in hac Aleppensi Versione, quod possit non dico, animos offendere, sed Aures perstringere leviter est sane detorsio illa Nominum propriorum ad Græcam Scripturam Pronuntiationem accommodata, secus ac habetur in omnibus Syriacis et Arabicis Versionibus; verbi gratia Apostolum Andream Andraous tam Syriace quam Arabice vocamus sed in Versione Aleppensi hoc Nomen ubique scribitur Andrias, ut scilicet ad Græcam Pronuntiationem magis accedat sic etiam Protestantium Versiones aliter nomina propria exhibent quam leguntur sive in Versione Tων Septuaginta sive in vulgata, testis quo est ex innumeris aliis Nabucodonosor quem illæ Pronuntiationem Hebraicam secutæ Nebucadnezarem transformarunt; hanc autem rationem, quamvis exactior sit et Nominum propriorum Etymologias melius repræsentet, absque esse tamen a Versione Aleppensi optavissem, quia nescio quid affectati, et ut ita dicam prodigiosi præferat, sed cum nihilominus sobria sit, nec id soleat facere nisi in puris Græcis Hebraica enim intacta reliquit) non video hanc Difficultatem tanti esse faciendam, ut pios Societatis Conatus impediat aut retardet; denique vel potius hæc Nomina reducenda sunt ad Scripturam aliarum Versionum, quod quidem Opus Editionis Polyglottæ sine ullo negotio fieri potest, quam ut hoc tam utile tam Christianum, tamq; Heroicum Consilium communicandi orientalibus Novi Testamenti frequentiorisq; reddendi ullo pacto impendatur. Nam

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4to Ut de ipso successu meam Mentem jam aperiam, vix ac ne vix quidem dici potest quantam utilitatem hæc Editio allatura sit; si ritè et debito modo conficiatur, id est si Textus nudus procuretur Chartâ nitidâ et densâ, si Typis elegantibus et correctis, si Formâ neque nimis grandi, quam ut portari commode possit neque rursus nimis parvâ, ne Volumen justo spissius evadat. Considerate enim, quæso, ex omnibus Arabicis Editionibus sive totius Scripturæ, sive Novi Testamenti vel duntaxat quatuor Evangeliorum nullam ferè esse alicujus usûs Orientalibus aut Christianis aut Mahammadanis, non utramque Editionem Polyglottam Parisiensem et Londinensem, quia et multis Linguis constant, et multis Voluminibus, proindeq; non nisi maximo pretio parabiles; non Editionem Romanam totius Scripturæ in duobus Voluminibus in Folio, quia ex vulgatâ facta est, et habet Latinum Textum adjunctum, et ut superius notavi, crassis Solecismis et vulgaribus Idiotismis scatet; non alteram Editionem Romanam quatuor Evangeliorum in Folio, quia interdistincta est et Versione Latina interlineari, et innumeris imaginibus, quæ Mahammadanis sunt horrori; non tertiam adhuc Romanam Editionem totius Novi Testamenti in duobus voluminibus in Folio, quia et Textum Syriacum habet et Arabicum repræsentat Characteres Syriaco expressum, præterea tot erroribus Typographicis inquinata est, ut facilius fuerit Herculi Stabulum Augiæ expurgare, quam illius mendas ulli Lectori corrigere; non denique Editionem Erpenianam totius etiam Novi Testamenti, et alteram Pentateuchi, quia licet pulchræ sint, et nostratibus acceptissimæ, adeo raræ sunt ut non minori pretio vendi soleant, quam si essent eximia Manuscripta. Interea vero non facile dixerim quantâ penuriâ laboremus Scripturæ. Nam licèat mihi vere asserere nullam esse pene Familiam Coptæ quæ totam Scripturam, perpaucissimas autem quæ Novum Testamentum in Ædibus suis habeant. Si Ratio hujus penuriæ quæratur, non aliâ reperietur esse quam pretii immensitas, quæ tanta est ut ipse ego me mirirem dum Scholas frequentabam, solum Volumen Actorum et Epistolarum Beati Pauli sex Coronis mihi constitisse quamvis haud Manus elegantissimæ partus esset.

Quæ cum ita sint, quis dubitare possit quin Editio Novi Testamenti quam molitur Societas placitura sit vel etiam cum paucis illis nævis contra quos Objectiones nonnullæ factæ sunt, præsertim cum Societas nihil de suo conferat præter Expensas ac Laborem et ipsa Exemplaria gratis distribuenda sint? Quod si dicatur verendum esse, ne Missionarii eorumque asseclæ adversus hanc Editionem clamitent, primum nullam justam Causam habebunt, quia nihil ea continebit præter purum Textum ab originali Græco expressum et quidem ab ipsis Arabibus; deinde clamitent quantum volent; cur cedendum illis esset? Cur Angli non flagrarent eodem zelo Verbi Divini propagandi, ac Missionarij dilatandæ Religionis Catholicæ. Faxit igitur Deus Pater hominum, ut neque Cælum, neque Terra, neque Inferi tam pium Consilium, tamque sanctum Opus impedire aut velint aut queant.

16mo Julij 1726.

Read at the Committee the 4th July 1727
Ordered to be communicated when the Barks are sent to Scandaroon.

To Mr. Newman.

N.o 9326.
Duplicate Mr. Newman

Hond.d Sir

Aleppo.
17.th March. 1725/6

I confirm the 3. preceeding Copies of the 23.d Novemb.r and 10.th Decemb.r and 7.th instant, and having now another Opportunity of paying you my Respects by a French Bark bound from Scandar.n to Marselles, I the more willingly improve it that I may omitt no Opportunity of exciting your Care of the Edition of the New Testament to obviate the Faults of the Edition of the Psalter. I shall attend at your Leisure your Answer to my Letter of the 21.st July, and in the Interim, wishing all imaginable Happiness to the Society in General and to your self in particular, I remain with much Respect—

Honor.d Sir,

Aleppo. 10.th Apr.l 1727.

The above Lines of the 17.th March 1725/6. shew how long I have intermitted my Correspondence to you, and in this Interval I have been favour'd with two of your obliging Letters dated 30.th July and 24.th Septemb.r for whose Contents I give you many Thanks.

I observ'd what Letters you had from me, and am glad that you having communicated them to the Society they have so favourably accepted of what I acted in their Affairs, as to honour me with their Thanks. You may please to assure them of the like Assiduity and Care to assist their carrying on the good Work which they have so charitably begun for the Benefit of our poor Christian Brethren in these Parts, and the Honour of our Country and Church.

As to the Faults in the printed Copies of the Psalter, I must acquiesce in what you are pleased to say on that Head since they could not be amended there. The only way now remaining is by imploying some hands to correct them here by a Copy of that List which I sent you. If you approve of it, please to let me know the Society's Pleasure, and it shall be set about and done with as little Expence as may be: and for what more the Society may hereafter print of the Psalters, they may, if they please, print a List of the Errata on a Leaf at the beginning of each Book, as you are pleas'd to mention.

I am very glad to see the New Edition of the New Testament in Arabick is in such Forwardness, and much more so that the Correctors will double their Care for preventing

any

any Faults from the Press. To those which I formerly sent you Notice of, you may please to add these which I have since found out, as specified on the back of this Letter. As to what you are pleas'd to mention of the printing 10,000 Copies of the N. Testam.t in 2. Columns, and without the Annotat.ns or Contents or parallell places, it don't become me to say any thing that may look like arguing against the Sentiments of H. G. the Archbp. of Canterbury and his Learned Brethren, otherwise it might be said, that if the printed Copy had been sett out exactly as the Manuscript is, it had been nothing new to those that know any thing of Languages and see Diodati's Italian Bible is printed with all those Additions; And for the Natives they have the greatest Want of them, and they have already Erpenius's Edition of the New Testament without them. And as to what the Learned Critick was pleas'd to observe against printing the proper Names in the New Testament with the Greek Terminations, if he had compar'd the Variety they are wrote with in the several places of those written and printed Copies which the Christians here and in these parts have in their Hands, he would perhaps judge it the likeliest Way to take away the Disgust which many may probably have against such Variety; and it was only the View of remedying that Variety that the various writings were reduced to one, as it is in the Manuscript Copy sent the Society.

I am sorry I can't at present write the Society any thing that will be acceptable to them of the Affaires of the Venerable Silvester, the Patriarch of Antioch, the Artifices of the Romanists having raised too many of his Flock openly against him to endeavour to dethrone him, and have given him some trouble. He is now at Stambole, and by a Letter which he honour'd me with, of the 17.th of March, he intimates his hopes of overcoming all Difficulties, and resenting his Affaires with a little time and some Expence to the Porta or Turkish Governm.t to his own Content.

As to the Binding of the Books, by no means think of sending any of them out hither in Quires, because they cannot here bind neither so well, nor so cheap.

I am very glad to see you have receiv'd from M.r Kingston the Ms. Copy which I sent the Society of S.t Chrysostom's Life, and that they'll send me out some more of D.r Pocock's Edition of Grotius de Veritate Religionis Christianæ; I will dispose of the latter, when they come, as I did the Psalters; and as for the printing the former, the Society may take their own Time, only I could wish in the

in the mean time: they would please to put the Rever.d M.r Bedford and M.r Dadichi upon comporing an Arabick Concordance for at least the New Testam.t if not the whole Bible, in the manner of Newman's Edition of the Cambr. Concordance in 1698, because it is what all Christians here both Clergy and Laity want very much; And the Syrian Patriarch did me the honour once to enquire if we had any such thing in Arabick, and wish'd it could be done, if we had it not at present; so I promis'd him to propose it; and if it can be done, the Society can't take any way so effectual to extend and augment their Benefact.s of the Psalters and N. Test.t

I give you many Thanks for gratifying my Curiosity about the Society's being able to print in Armenian; That Nation has a Press at Stambole, which they may use and print freely what they have Occasion of; And perhaps hereafter, when the Charitable Contributions of our Nation enable the Society to print something for that Nation, either that Press, or at least their Font of Types and Workmen, may be brought from thence to London to serve the Society.

Any thing what you have to send me at any time, Letters or Specimens of what the Society print, made up as a Packet of Letters, you may please to send either to M.r Kingston, and he'll serve you to forward 'em to me; or you may send it by any Ship to Liv.r to M.r James Harriman Merchant there, and he will send it by some Ship, when any comes thence to Scandar.r

I remain with much Respect.t Sir, Yours &c.t

A List of several Faults in the Manuscript Copy of the New Testament in Arabick which must be amended in the printed Edition viz.t

Rom. 16. 16. يصافحكم كنايس
Should be. . . . . تصافحكم

1. John 4. 3. in the original Quotation from Matth. 11. 24.
with should be Matth 24. 11, 24

Revelations 3. 14. the Words كنيسة اللاودقيوف
Should be كنيسة اللاديقيين

Revelations 2. 18. . . . كنيسة التي في
Should be. الكنيسة التي في

Revelations 3. 1. . . . . كنيسة التي في
Should be. الكنيسة التي في

Revelations 3. 7. . . . the same.

In the Margin of 1. Corr. 4. 1. Quotat.n should be this متي ٢٤ : ٤٥
قرنثية ٢ ٤ : ٦

In Acts 17. 1. is. . امفيبوليس وابلونيه
and should be. . امفيبوليس وابلونيه

Coloss. 1. 12. take away the [ ] from ميراث

Honord.

Honor.d Sir.

Aleppo.
14.th April. 1727
p. Via Liv.o

9326.

This is only to confirm the above written Copy of my Letter of the 10.th instant by a French Bark to Liv.o and I send this least the other should miscarry. I intend to send another Copy by way of Marselles, that at least one of them may arrive in safety. I wish you all imaginable Happiness both in your Person and all your Concerns, and remain with much Respect. Sir Yours &c.

Honor.d Sir.

Aleppo
17.th April. 1727.

9326.

The Originals of the 2. preceeding Copies of the 10. and 14. instant, went by two French Barks bound from Scandar.n to Leworne, and this I intend you by another Bark to Marselles, because of the uncertainties of their passage, and that at least one of my Letters may arrive you in time for the Society's Edition of the New Testam.t in Arab. I could wish also that the Society would, to the Arabick Psalters which they have already printed, add 200. Volumes in Folio, such as I took the Freedom to recommend in my Letter of the 20.th of April 1725. for the use of Churches and Convents, because the Work would be highly acceptable to their Clergy here, and no great Addition to the Expence which the Society have hither to been at; so if you please you may mention it to them, that these Folio Psalters may come out with the New Testament. I am with much Respect,

Hon.d Sir, Your most humble Servant,

Rowland Sherman.

Read at the Commee 2.d Janry 1727/8

To M.r Newman.

Aleppo. 28.th Aug.t 1727.
p. via Livorne recommended to the Care of M.rs James Harriman.

Honor.d Sir,

9556.

Your Favour of the 6.th of June, Original and Copy arrived me the 4.th and 23.d instant, One by way of Marselles and the other by Way of Stambole. I observe what Dates you had receiv'd from me, and when the Letters which I have since had the honour to write you are arrived, you'll see that I have not been wanting in my Duty. Most of the particulars to w.ch you are pleas'd to desire my Answer you will find 'em in mine of the 10.th of April, only as to what Quantities of the

Psalter

Letter in Arabick I have hitherto disposd of, and to what Parts of Asia and Africa. You may please to know that I have some time since acquainted you that I disposd of most part of the first Parcell by the Hands of the Greek and Syrian Patriarchs of this Place, and the most of the latter Parcell are still by me in Expectation of your Answer whether the Society is content to be at the Charge of Correcting the Errata of the Press before they are given out; And tile these are gone I would not advise their sending out more than the 200. Volumes mentiond in my Letter of the 20th. of April 1725. in my last of the 17th April last, of which the above Lines are a Copy. The Specimen of the Impression of the New Testament in Arabick is very well as to the Letter and Collums and the placing the Figures of the Verses within the Line; by which the Margin is left fair and free, which makes me the more wish it had not been so naked of Marginal Notes since such caution and pains was used in collecting them to make them usefule to all sorts of Readers and inoffencive to any. As to the time requisite for drying the Impression before it is bound up, the Printer and Gentlemen who are us'd to such Work are the best Judges; And I can only say that since the Society have been at so much Expence to fit it out it seems more eligible, every way, ~~to stay a little~~ to stay it a little longer to have it perfect, than hazard the blemishing it by hastning it out too soon. I remain with much Respect &c. R. S.

Aleppo. 2. Oct. 1727.

Hond. Sir,

Having paid you my respects so lately as the 28th. of August, the above Lines being a Copy of what I wrote then, I should not have troubled you again thus soon, but that I judgd it necessary to inform you of a small Mistake which I have found in my MS. Copy of the N. Testament in Arabick and shall note it at the Foot of my Letter. Please to cause the Society's Copy to be examind and corrected if it is so there too, that the place may be amended in so much of the Edition as is now wrought off; and if it is already done, and comes out by the Ships, I'll take Care to have it corrected here.

I wish you all imaginable Happiness, and am with much Respect,

Hond Sir, Your most humble Servant

Rowland Sherman.

Errata.
John VI. 32
and it should be

To Mr. Newman

Aleppo.
30th March 172

By the Happy Retur
2 Dr.

Honor.d Sir,

Read at y.e Comm.ee
12th Sept.r 1728.
N.o 9859.

I don't find that I have had the Honor to write to you since the 2.d of Octob.r last, and I am now to return you Thanks for the 3. Letters you have done me the hon.r to write me under the 21.st and 25.th Sept.r and one without a date to accompany Copies of those 2. Letters.

We have heard certain News of the Nile's being safely arrivd at Alexandria, by a ffrench Ship which came from thence to Scandaroon, but we have no Letter neither from Capt.n Matthews nor from the British Consul at Cairo, nor his Vice Consul at Alexandria about the 2. Chests of Arabick Books which the Society have sent me by that Ship: So I have written to the two latter to enquire after the Chests, if the Capt.n put them ashoar, to send them to me by the first good Ship to Cyprus or Scandaroon, and I have not since heard from either of them.

The Contents of your abovemention'd Letters I shall answer very particularly in a few days by a ffrench Ship to Marseilles or a Dutch Ship to Livorne, which may first happen, and I'll send you another Copy of the Errata in the Psalter as I here enclose you one by this Conveyance, which is the Levant Company's Ships, the Princess Amalia and Happy Return, now on departure from Scandar.a to Cyprus; but afterwards they have other orders to open ~~and~~ to direct them where to goe. I am with much Respect,

Honor.d Sir, Your most humble Servant.

Rowland Sherman.

To Mr. Newman.

Aleppo 24.th Febry
1720/9
By the Halifax.

Honor.d Sir

Read at y.e Comm.ee
24.th June 1729
and at
The Society 3. July.
N.o 10.204.

When I wrote you the Original of the above Lines of the 30.th of March, I was in continual Hopes of seeing the Society's Benefaction of the New Testam.t in Arabick, which you wrote me were Laden on the Ship Nile, Captain Matthews Commander, but finding by your Favour of 15.th March, which arriv'd me the 12.th of June, that the Chests were not Laden at all on the Nile, and would come only by the Levant Comp.y's Ships, I judged it needless

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to write to you, as I formerly intended, by Way of Liv.r or Marseilles, and that it was better to delay it till the Comp.a Ships actualy arrivd, which accordingly I did; And I have now to acquaint you that they arrivd the 12.th of Decemb.r and the 14.th I receivd your Favours of the 27.th Septemb.r Original, and 28.th and 30.th Ditto and 4.th of Octob.r with the 3. Invoices of the Nine Chests of Books by the respective Ships; and I have since receivd 2. of the Chests in good Order into my Custody, and the Remainder I intend to bring up so by little and little, that the Farmer of the Customs may pass them the easier, he having made me pay Custom for the 2. last Shippings of the Psalters, when he saw so large a Quantity come. I shall now answer the Contents of your several Letters abovementiond, and what remains unanswerd of your former Letters mentiond in Copy, taking them in Order.

I tenderd the Society's Thanks with all possible Respect to the Reverend Don Pietro de Oliva for his Directions about the Orthographical Marks, and at the same time I presented him, as from them, One of the New Testaments, and One of the Psalters, gilt on the Back, and another of the same I presented to another Friend, but the Bookbinder having misplaced some Sheets, it was brought me again to see, and gave me some Concern least the rest should be so too: But after examining of the several Sorts, I found them right, Only casting my Eye casually on Galat. III.: 10, I found the Printer had omitted the negative Particle on which the Sense of the Verse turns, So to provide against any other Errata, ---- I have sent some to a Greek Priest to be examind entirely, and to make a List of the Errata, if there be any, that they may be corrected; and then I'll distribute the whole 1300. by the Hands of the Clergy of the several Nations here and at the adjacent Places, as I have already done most of the 50 small Treatises of the Compendium of the Holy Scriptures, and the Xtian Religion, which are wonderfully likd. I wish you had been pleasd to let me know the Names of them that composed and translated it, because if the Latter should be, as from several places I imagine he is, one of our Nation, you will do a Work in the highest Degree deserving of all the Christians in this Country, both Clergy and Laity, to put him and M.r Dadichi together upon comporing an Arabic Concordance for the Holy Bible in the same manner as the Cambridge Edition in 1698, or any other that may have come out since; And nothing will so much augment the

Society's

Benefaction of the Psalters and New Testament, and so invite all Sorts of People to read and study the Holy Scriptures as that would; nor is any Thing, next to the Scriptures themselves, so much wanted. I hope the Society will in the New Testaments which they send next, insert at least the Scriptural Quotations in the Margins, if they do not do the Annotations, too, they having been collected with so much Caution, Pains and Expence. The Quotations might easily have been put into these 1300, if there had been only the Breadth of a little Finger, and taken from each Column to make the 2. Margin's wider, and the Figures been put close together, as they stand in the M.S. Copy, which you may please to observe in due time; because, that not being observ'd neither in the Psalter, nor in the abovemention'd small Treatise, is I suppose the Cause of their being put below in a place apart; And if you cause the Figures to be put after the Words, as in the M.S. Copy, and not before, as in your printed Copies, it will be more compact and neater. The Reason of the Editor's now putting them otherwise was probably because of the Arabians reading from the Right to the Left, but the Figures being read as our European Writings are, from the Left to the Right, they must stand inverted to the Arabic Letters, on which Side soever they be placed. Please to excuse my Freedom in saying thus much, my Intention being only to have the Society's Benefaction come out as beautifull and perfect as may be in all Respects.

The Size of their 4.to Edit. of the New Testam.t I like very well, it being so very commodious and light to handle, but is too large for a Person to carry in his Bosom; and in that only respect an 8.vo is more convenient; So that if the Society send some 8.vo or 8, it may do well.

As to a Concordance being made by any of the Ecclesiasticks here, tho' even by a Patriarch's Superintendence and Encouragment it's not to be hop'd, because their Learning is small, and their Zeal less, and their Eyes and Hands too much unused to such Work: But now the New Testam.t is thus digested into Chapters and Verses, as the Roman Edition of the O. Test.t was in 1671, I hope the Honor that will redound to our Church and Country by putting out so noble and useful a Work in favour of our Xtian Brethren in these Eastern parts, will prevail on the 2. abovemention'd Gentlemen to undertake it; And were

God

I at Home my self, I would very willingly bear any Share of the Trouble with them, to bring the Work out the sooner.

I have some time since had the Honour to acquaint you, how far I used the help of the Greek and Syrian Patriarchs in distributing the Psalters, and with the Knowledge of the former, I sent several to Damascus and Antioch, and other parts; And I have still large Quantities to distribute, when I see he has overcome his Troubles and is returnd to Constantinople.

You are pleas'd in Your Letter of the 14th. of Octob. to give me Leave to draw upon you what Charges I have been at for the several Chests of printed Books sent me by the Society; I shall do it accordingly, when I have caused to be corrected the Remaind.r of the Psalters, and seen what more is necessary to be expended on these 1300. New Testaments.

As to the List of the Faults of the Print in the Psalters, if they cannot be corrected at the Press, and the Society think the List too large to be printed along the next best Way is to have them corrected here by Persons hired on Purpose, and then the Edition will come out perfect, and the Expence of the Correction is moderate.

As to the Specimen which you was pleas'd to send me of the Hebrew Bible, neither Don Pietro de Oliva, nor my self, have any Knowledge of that Language But a Jew, to whom I shew'd it, was mightily pleas'd with it, and took one of the 2. Specimens to send to the Jews at Levorne.

I remain with much Respect,

Honor.d Sir, Your most humble servant,

Rowland Sherman.

Your Favour of the 14th. of Octob. 1727. I receiv'd the 3.d of June last, and have answer'd the Contents of it among your other Letters, tho' I omitted to mention it in Order

S.r R: S.

P.S. Aleppo. 24th. Feb. 1728/9.

Honor.d Sir, To the above Copy of what I have wrote you to day by the Levant Company's Ships, I have only to add, that if the Society send a Quantity of their Arabick New Test.am.t in 8.vo, they'le perhaps do best to make the Lines only in one Column, and then placing the Figures to the Verses within the Line, and leaving the outward Margin large, they will have Space enough to put the Scriptural Quotations in it, as they stand in the Folio Ar. S. Copy, which they may likewise do in what they send out next time of the Small Treatise of the Compendium of the holy Scriptures and the Christian Religion, and the Edition will be much neater and compacter than what they sent now for a Specimen. This Letter I send to Cyprus to be forwarded by Way of France, by the 1.st Ship that happens to pass by that Way. I am with much respect.

To Mr. Newman. Aleppo 23. March. 1729

Honor. Sir,

Read at the Commee 15th July. 1729 — The two preceeding Copies contain what I had the Honour to write you under the 24th of ffebry, and this Letter I intend you by Way of Stamboll and Vienna to convey to you a Copy of the Errata of the Press in the Edition of the Arabick New Testament. It has been examind several times. The Greek Priest who did the first wrote me, that he admired to see such a Work come out with so few and so small Faults, and gave a Thousand Benedictions to the Gentlemen who had the Incumbence of Supervising the Press. I could wish you would not bind any more in Paper, because they do not look so well, and will be much sooner spoild than when bound in Leather. I have an able Writer hard at Work to correct the Faults of the Press, and I have begun to give the Books out among the Christians of the several Nations here, and in the Places adjacent, observing always to begin with the Clergy, and the Schoolmasters for themselves and their Scholars.

I request you to remember the Contents of my Letters to you of 20th and 29th of April 1725. and 17th April 1727. in respect to the Folio Psalters, and with a larger Character in the Text, and a Lesser in the Annotations, and to have the 8vo Psalters as mentiond in my last.

I take the ffreedom also to remind you that you have not been pleas'd to answer what I mentiond to you in my Letters of the 29th of April and 23 Novr 1725. about the Society's presenting a Sett of the Antient Greek Fathers towards the Patriarchs Library and School; Such a Benefaction will be every way worthy of the Society's Design, and highly promote the Good which they have hitherto done, by shewing the Greeks themselves what their Church antiently was, before the Servants of the Enemy sowed his Tares among her Wheat.

I remain with much Respect

Honor. Sir

Your most humble Servant.

Rowland Sherman.

To Mr. Hen. Newman.

Honor. Sir

Read at the Commee 15th August 1729. Our Correspondents at Cyprus writing me lately, that they could not forward my Letter of the 24th Febry, which had laid there to go by any accidental Ship, because of the Plague being broke out there, I send this Letter by Way of the Coast to meet some Ships bound to Marselles, and convey to you by one means or other the Copies of my Letters of 24th Febry. 24th D.o and 23. March, and a List of the Errata of the Arabick New Testament, One of which you have here inclosed, least that in my last by Way of Stambole should not arrive. I have received 4 Chests of the New Testaments and distributed them all, except some few, which by Faults of the Bookbinder cannot be given out, and four Chests more are ~~now~~ come up from Scandaroon and now in the Custom house. I wait for a proper Opportunity to take them out, and then when they are corrected, I will take due Care to distribute them as I did the others. I am with much Respect,

Honor. Sir

Your most humble Servant,

Rowland Sherman.

Aleppo,
8th May 1729.